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A

NEW GUIDE

TO THE

CITY OF EDINBURGH:

CONTAINING

A Description of all the Public Buildings,

AND

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE CITY,

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIODS TO THE PRESENT TIME,

EMBELLISHED WITH

ELEGANT ENGRAVINGS

OF THE

PRINCIPAL PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED FOR, AND SOLD BY,

THOMAS BROWN, BOOKSELLER,

HEAD OF NORTH BRIDGE-STREET.

M,DCC,XC.

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A

GUIDE

TO THE

CITY OF EDINBURGH.

General History.

THE origin of the name of this city, like that of moſt others, is very uncertain. Some imagine it to be derived from Eth, a ſuppoſed king of the Picts. Others, from Edwin, a Saxon prince of Northumberland, who over-ran the whole or greateſt part of the territories of the Picts, about the year 617: while others chooſe to derive it from two Gaelic words, *Dun Edin*, ſignifying the face of a hill. The name *Edinburgh* itſelf, however, ſeems to have been unknown in the time of the Romans. The moſt ancient title by which we find this city diſtinguiſhed, is that of *Caſtelh Myryd Agned*; which, in the Engliſh language, ſignifies "the fortreſs of the hill of St Agnes." Afterwards it was

named *Caſtrum Puellarum*, becauſe the Pictiſh princeſſes were educated in the caſtle, (a neceſſary protection in thoſe barbarous ages), till they were married. The ages in which theſe names were given cannot indeed now be exactly aſcertained; but the town certainly cannot boaſt of very great antiquity; ſince, as Mr Whittaker informs us, the celebrated King Arthur fought a battle on the ſpot where it is ſituated, towards the end of the fifth century.

The Romans, during the time they held the dominion of part of this iſland, divided their poſſeſſions into ſix provinces. The moſt northerly of theſe was called *Valentia*, which comprehended all the ſpace between the walls of Adrian and Severus. Thus, Edinburgh, lying on the very outſkirts of that province, which was moſt expoſed to the ravages of the barbarians, became perpetually ſubject to wars and devaſtations, by means of which the time of its firſt foundation cannot now be gueſſed at.

The caſtle is certainly very ancient. It continued in the hands of the Saxons or Engliſh from the invaſion of Octa and Ebuſa in the year 452, till the defeat of Egfrid king of Northumberland in 685 by the Picts, who then repoſſeſſed themſelves of it. The Saxon kings of Northumberland reconquered it in the ninth century; and it was retained by their ſucceſſors till the year 956, when it was given up to Indulphus king of Scotland. In 1093 it was unſucceſsfully beſieged by the uſurper Donald Bane. Whether this city was at that time founded or not, is uncertain. Moſt probably it was; for as protection from violence was neceſſary in thoſe barbarous ages,

ages, the caſtle of Edinburgh could not fail of being an inducement to many people to ſettle in its neighbourhood; and thus the city would gradually be founded and increaſe. In 1128, King David I. founded the Abbey of Holyroodhouſe, for certain canons regular, and granted them a charter, in which he ſtyled the town *Burgo meo de Edwineſburg*, "my borough of Edinburgh." By the ſame charter he granted theſe canons 40 ſhillings yearly out of the town revenues, and likewiſe 48 ſhillings more from the ſame, in caſe of the failure of certain duties payable from the king's revenue; and likewiſe one half of the tallow, lard, and hides, of all the beaſts killed in Edinburgh.

In 1174, the caſtle of Edinburgh was ſurrendered to Henry II. of England, in order to purchaſe the liberty of King William I. who had been defeated and taken priſoner by the Engliſh. But when William recovered his liberty, he entered into an alliance with Henry, and married his couſin Ermengarde, upon which the caſtle was reſtored as part of the queen's dower.

In 1215, this city was firſt diſtinguiſhed by having a parliament and provincial ſynod held in it.—In 1296, the caſtle was beſieged and taken by Edward I. of England; but was recovered in 1313 by Randolf Earl of Moray, who was afterwards regent of Scotland during the minority of King David II. At laſt King Robert deſtroyed this fortreſs, as well as all others in Scotland, leſt they ſhould afford ſhelter to the Engliſh in any of their after incurſions into Scotland. It lay in ruins for a conſiderable number

of years; but was afterwards rebuilt by Edward III. of England, who placed a ſtrong garriſon in it.

In 1341, it was reduced by the following ſtratagem. A man, pretending to be an Engliſh merchant, came to the governor, and told him that he had on board his ſhip in the Forth ſome wine, beer, biſcuits, &c. which he would ſell him on very reaſonable terms. A bargain being made, he promiſed to deliver the goods next morning at a very reaſonable rate; but at the time appointed, twelve men, diſguiſed in the habit of ſailors, entered the caſtle with the goods and ſuppoſed merchant; and having inſtantly killed the porter and centinels, Sir William Douglas, on a preconcerted ſignal, ruſhed in with a band of armed men, and quickly made himſelf maſter of the place, after having cut moſt of the garriſon in pieces.

The year 1437 is remarkable for the execution of the Earl of Athol and his accomplices, who had a concern in the murder of James I. The crime, it muſt be owned, was execrable, but the puniſhment was altogether ſhocking to humanity. For three days ſucceſſively the aſſaſſins were tortured by putting on their heads iron crowns heated red hot, diſlocating their joints, pinching their fleſh with red hot pincers, and carrying them in that dreadful ſituation through the ſtreets upon hurdles. At laſt an end was put to their ſufferings, by cutting them up alive, and ſending the parts of their mangled bodies to the principal towns of the kingdom.

About the end of the 14th century, it was cuſtomary to conſider Edinburgh as the capital of the kingdom.

dom. The town of Leith, with its harbour and mills, had been beſtowed upon it by Robert I. in 1329; and his grandſon John Earl of Carrick, who afterwards aſcended the throne by the name of Robert III. conferred upon all the burgeſſes the ſingular privilege of building houſes in the caſtle, upon the ſole condition that they ſhould be perſons of good fame; which we muſt undoubtedly conſider as a proof that the number of theſe burgeſſes was at that time very ſmall. In 1461 a very conſiderable privilege was conferred on the city by Henry VI. of England when in a ſtate of exile; *viz.* that its inhabitants ſhould have liberty to trade to all the Engliſh ports on the ſame terms with the city of London. This extraordinary privilege was beſtowed in conſequence of the kindneſs with which that king was treated in a viſit to the Scottiſh monarch at Edinburgh; but as Henry was never reſtored, his gratitude was not attended with any benefit to this city. From this time, however, its privileges continued to be increaſed from various cauſes. In 1482 the citizens had an opportunity of liberating King James from the oppreſſion of his nobles, by whom he had been impriſoned in the caſtle. On this account the provoſt was by that monarch made hereditary high ſheriff within the city, an office which he continues ſtill to enjoy. The council at the ſame time were inveſted with the power of making laws and ſtatutes for the government of the city; and the trades, as a teſtimony of the royal gratitude for their loyalty, received the banner known by the name of the *Blue Blanket*—an enſign formerly capable of producing great commotions, but which has not

now been diſplayed for many years paſt. However, it ſtill exiſts, and the convener of the trades has the charge of keeping it.

It was not long after the diſcovery of America, that the venereal diſeaſe, imported from that country, made its way to Edinburgh. As early as 1497, only five years after the voyage of Columbus, we find it looked upon as a moſt dreadful plague, and the unhappy perſons affected with it were ſeparated as effectually as poſſible from ſociety. The place of their exile was Inchkeith, a ſmall iſland near the middle of the Forth, which, ſmall as it is, has a ſpring of freſh water, and now affords paſture to ſome ſheep.

By the overthrow of James IV. at the battle of Flowden, the city of Edinburgh was overwhelmed with grief and confuſion, that monarch having been attended in his unfortunate expedition by the Earl of Angus, then provoſt, with the reſt of the magiſtrates, and a number of the principal inhabitants, moſt of whom periſhed in the battle. After this diſaſter, the inhabitants being alarmed for the ſafety of their city, it was enacted, that every fourth man ſhould keep watch at night; the fortifications of the town were renewed, the wall being alſo extended in ſuch a manner as to incloſe the Graſsmarket, and the field on which Heriot's Hoſpital, the Grey Friars Church, and Charity Workhouſe, ſtand. On the eaſt ſide it was made to incloſe the College, Infirmary, and High School; after which, turning to the north, it met the old wall at the Netherbow-port. After this alarm was over, the inhabitants were gradually relieved

lieved from the trouble of watching at night, and a certain number of militia appointed to prevent diſturbances, who continue to this day, and are known by the name of the *Town-Guard*. Before theſe new incloſures, moſt of the principal people lived in the Cowgate without the wall, and the burying-place was ſituated where the Parliament Cloſe now is. In our days of peace, when no alarm of an enemy is at all probable, great part of the walls, with all the gates, have been taken down, and the city laid quite open, in order to afford more ready paſſage to the great concourſe of people with whom the ſtreets are daily filled. But at the period we ſpeak of, not only were the inhabitants much leſs numerous by reaſon of the ſmall extent of the city, but it was depopulated by a dreadful plague; ſo that to ſtop if poſſible the progreſs of the infection, all houſes and ſhops were ſhut for fourteen days, and ſome, where infected perſons had died, were pulled down altogether.

In 1504, the tract of ground called the Burrough Muir, was totally overgrown with wood, though now it affords not the ſmalleſt veſtige of having been in ſuch a ſtate. So great was the quantity at that time, however, that it was enacted by the town-council, that whoever inclined to purchaſe as much wood as was ſufficient to make a new front for their houſe, might extend it ſeven feet into the ſtreet. Thus the city was in a ſhort time filled with houſes of wood inſtead of ſtone; by which, beſides the inconvenience of having the ſtreet narrowed fourteen feet, and the beauty of the whole entirely

tirely marred, it became much more liable to accidents by fire: But almoſt all theſe are now pulled down; and, in doing this, a ſingular taſte in the maſonry which ſupported them, is ſaid to have been diſcovered.

In 1542, a war with England having commenced through the treachery of Cardinal Beaton, an Engliſh fleet of 200 ſail entered the Forth, and having landed their forces, quickly made themſelves maſters of the towns of Leith and Edinburgh. They next attacked the caſtle, but were repulſed from it with loſs; and by this they were ſo enraged that they not only deſtroyed the towns of Edinburgh and Leith, but laid waſte the country for a great way round. Theſe towns, however, ſpeedily recovered from their ruinous ſtate, and, in 1547, Leith was again burned by the Engliſh after the battle of Pinkey, but Edinburgh was ſpared.

Several diſturbances happened in this capital at the time of the Reformation, none of which greatly affected the city till the year 1570, at which time there was a civil war on account of Queen Mary's forced reſignation. The regent, who was one of the contending parties, bought the caſtle from the perfidious governor (Balfour) for 5000 l. and the priory of Pittenweem. He did not, however, long enjoy the fruits of this infamous bargain. Sir William Kirkaldy, the new governor, a man of great integrity and bravery, declared for the Queen. The city in the mean time was ſometimes in the hands of one party and ſometimes of another, during which contentions, the inhabitants, as may be eaſily imagined,

imagined, ſuffered extremely. In the year 1570 above mentioned, Queen Elizabeth ſent a body of 1000 foot and 300 horſe, under the command of Sir William Drury, to aſſiſt the king's party. The caſtle was ſummoned to ſurrender; and ſeveral ſkirmiſhes happened during the courſe of two years, in which a kind of predatory war was carried on. At laſt a truce was agreed on till the month of January 1573; and this opportunity the Earl of Morton, now regent, made uſe of to build two bulwarks acroſs the High Street, nearly oppoſite to the tolbooth, to defend the city from the fire of the caſtle.

On the firſt of January, early in the morning, the governor began to cannonade the city. Some of the cannon were pointed againſt the fiſh-market, then held on the high ſtreet; and the bullets falling among the fiſhes, ſcattered them about in a ſurpriſing manner, and even drove them up ſo high in the air, that they fell down upon the tops of the houſes. This unuſual ſpectacle having brought a number of people out of their houſes, ſome of them were killed, and others dangerouſly wounded. Some little time afterwards, ſeveral houſes were ſet on fire by ſhot from the caſtle, and burned to the ground; which greatly enraged the people againſt the governor. A treaty was at laſt concluded between the leaders of the oppoſite factions; but Kirkaldy refuſed to be comprehended in it. The regent therefore ſolicited the aſſiſtance of Queen Elizabeth, and Sir William Drury was again ſent into Scotland with 1500 foot and a train of artillery. The caſtle was now beſieged in form, and batteries raiſed againſt

gainſt it in different places. The governor defended himſelf with great bravery for 33 days; but finding moſt of the fortifications demoliſhed, the well choaked up with rubbiſh, and all ſupplies of water cut off, he was obliged to ſurrender. The Engliſh general, in the name of his miſtreſs, promiſed him honourable treatment; but the Queen of England ſhamefully gave him up to the regent, by whom he was hanged.

Soon after this, the ſpirit of fanaticiſm, which ſomehow or other ſucceeded the reformation, produced violent commotions, not only in Edinburgh, but through the whole kingdom. The foundation of theſe diſturbances, and indeed of moſt others which have ever happened in Chriſtendom on account of religion, was that pernicious maxim of Popery, that the church is independent of the ſtate. It is not to be ſuppoſed that this maxim was at all agreeable to the ſovereign; but ſuch was the attachment of the people to the doctrines of the clergy, that King James found himſelf obliged to compound matters with them. This, however, anſwered the purpoſe but very indifferently; and at laſt a violent uproar was excited. The King was then ſitting in the Court of Seſſion, which was held in the tolbooth, when a petition was preſented to him by ſix perſons, lamenting the dangers which threatened religion; and being treated with very little reſpect by one Bruce a miniſter, his Majeſty aſked who they were that dared to convene againſt his proclamation? He was anſwered by Lord Lindſay, that they dared to do more, and would not ſuffer religion to be overthrown.

thrown. On this the king perceiving a number of people crowding into the room, withdrew into another without making any reply, ordering the door to be ſhut. By this the petitioners were ſo much enraged, that on their return to the church the moſt furious reſolutions were taken; and had it not been for the activity of Sir Alexander Home the provoſt, and Mr Watt the deacon-convener, who aſſembled the crafts in his Majeſty's behalf, it is more than probable that the door would have been forced, and an end put to his life. This affront was ſo much reſented by the King, that he thought proper to declare Edinburgh an unfit place of reſidence for the court or the adminiſtration of juſtice. In conſequence of this declaration, he commanded the college of juſtice, the inferior judges, and the nobility and barons, to retire from Edinburgh, and not to return without expreſs licence. This unexpected declaration threw the whole town into conſternation, and brought back the magiſtrates and principal inhabitants to a ſenſe of their duty. With the clergy it was far otherwiſe. They railed againſt the king in the moſt furious manner; and, endeavouring to perſuade the people to take up arms, the Magiſtrates were ordered to impriſon them: but they eſcaped by a timely flight. A deputation of the moſt reſpectable burgeſſes was then ſent to the King at Linlithgow, with a view to mitigate his reſentment. But he refuſed to be pacified; and, on the laſt day of December 1596, entered the town between two rows of his ſoldiers who lined the ſtreets, while the citizens were commanded to keep within their houſes.

A convention of the eſtates was held in the tolbooth, before whom the magiſtrates made the moſt abject ſubmiſſions, but all in vain. The convention declared one of the late tumults, in which an attack had been made upon the king's perſon, to be high treaſon; and ordained, that if the magiſtrates did not find out the authors, the city itſelf ſhould be ſubjected to all the penalties due to that crime. It was even propoſed to raze the town to the foundation, and erect a pillar on the ſpot where it had ſtood, as a monument of its crimes. The inhabitants were now reduced to the utmoſt deſpair; but Queen Elizabeth interpoſing in behalf of the city, the King thought proper to abate ſomewhat of his rigour. A criminal proſecution, however, was commenced, and the town-council were commanded to appear at Perth by the firſt of February. On their petition, the time for their appearance was prolonged to the firſt of March; and the attendance of thirteen of the common council was declared ſufficient, provided they had a proper commiſſion from the reſt. The trial commenced on the fifth day of the month; and one of the number having failed in his attendance, the cauſe was immediately decided againſt the council. They were declared rebels, and their revenues forfeited.

For fifteen days the city continued in the utmoſt confuſion; but at laſt, on their earneſt ſupplication, and offering to ſubmit entirely to the King's mercy, the community were reſtored on the following conditions, which they had formerly proffered: That they ſhould continue to make a moſt diligent ſearch for

for the authors of the tumult, in order to bring them to condign punishment; that none of the seditious ministers should be allowed to return to their charges, and no others admitted without his Majesty's consent; and that in the election of their magistrates they should present a list of the candidates to the King, and his lords of council and session, whom his Majesty and their lordships might approve or reject at pleasure. To these conditions the King now added some others; *viz.* that the houses which had been possessed by the ministers should be delivered up to the King; and that the clergymen should afterwards live dispersed through the town, every one in his own parish: That the town-council house should be appointed for accommodating the court of exchequer; and that the town should become bound for the safety of the lords of session from any attempts of the burgesses, under a penalty of 40,000 merks; and, lastly, that the town should immediately pay 20,000 merks to his Majesty.

Upon these terms a reconciliation took place; which appears to have been very complete, as the King not only allowed the degraded ministers to be replaced, but in 1610 conferred a mark of his favour on the town, by allowing the provost to have a sword of state carried before him, and the magistrates to wear gowns on public occasions. In 1618 he paid his last visit to the city, when he was received with the most extravagant pomp and magnificence.

The events which, during this period, regard the internal police of the city, were principally the following. After the unfortunate battle at Pinky, the

magiſtrates, probably apprehending that now their power was enlarged by reaſon of the common calamity, proceeded in ſome reſpects in a very arbitrary manner; forcing the inhabitants to furniſh materials for the public works; enjoining merchants to bring home ſilver to be coined at the mint; and ordering lanterns to be hung out at proper places to burn till nine at night, &c. Another invaſion from England being apprehended in 1558, the city raiſed 1450 men for its defence, among whom there are ſaid to have been 200 taylors, ſo that their profeſſion ſeems to have been in a very flouriſhing ſtate at that time. During the diſturbances which happened at the reformation, it was enacted, that the figure of St Giles ſhould be cut out of the town ſtandard, and that of a thiſtle inſerted in its place. It was likewiſe enacted, that none but thoſe who profeſſed the reformed religion ſhould ſerve in any office whatever; and the better to preſerve that extraordinary appearance of ſanctity which was affected, a pillar was erected in the North Loch, for the purpoſe of ducking fornicators.

In 1595, the boys of the High School roſe againſt their maſters; and ſuch was the barbariſm of thoſe days, that one of theſe ſtriplings ſhot a magiſtrate with a piſtol, who had come along with the reſt to reduce them to obedience. The reaſon of the uproar was, that they were in that year refuſed two vacations, which had been cuſtomary in former times: however, they were at laſt obliged to ſubmit, and ever ſince have been allowed only one for about ſix weeks in the autumn. The ſame year the houſe of

one

one of the bailies was aſſaulted by the tradeſmens ſons, aſſiſted by journeymen who had not received the freedom of the town: he eſcaped with his life; but the offenders were baniſhed the city for ever.

In the beginning of the reign of Charles I. a perfect harmony ſeems to have ſubſiſted between the court and the city of Edinburgh; for in 1627 King Charles I. preſented the city with a new ſword and gown, to be worn by the provoſt at the times appointed by his father James VI. Next year he paid a viſit to this capital, and was received by the magiſtrates in the moſt pompous manner; but ſoon after this the diſturbances aroſe which were not terminated but by the death of that unfortunate monarch. Theſe commenced on an attempt of Charles to introduce Epiſcopacy into the kingdom; and the firſt ſtep towards this was the erection of the three Lothians and part of Berwick into a dioceſe, Edinburgh being the epiſcopal ſeat, and the church of St Giles the cathedral. But though the attempt was given over, the minds of the people were not to be quieted. Next winter they reſorted to the town in ſuch multitudes, that the privy council thought proper to publiſh two acts: by one of which the people were commanded, under ſevere penalties, to leave the town in 24 hours; and by the other, the court of ſeſſion was removed to Linlithgow. The populace and their leaders were ſo much enraged by the latter, that lord Traquair and ſome of the biſhops narrowly eſcaped with their lives; and next year (1638) matters became ſtill more ſerious. For now, the king having provoked his ſubjects throughout all Scotland with the inno-

vations he attempted in religion, Edinburgh was made the general place of rendezvous, and the moſt formidable aſſociations took place. Each of the towns of Scotland had a copy; and that which belonged to Edinburgh, crowded with 5000 names, is ſtill preſerved among the records of the city. Notwithſtanding this diſagreement, however, the King once more viſited Edinburgh in 1641, and was entertained by the magiſtrates at an expence of 12,000 l. Scots. It does not appear that, after this, the city was in any way particularly concerned with the diſturbances which followed, either throughout the the remainder of the reign of Charles I., the commonwealth, or the reign of Charles II. In 1680, the Duke of York with his Ducheſs, the Princeſs Anne, and the whole court of Scotland, were entertained by the city in the Parliament Houſe, at the expence of 15,000 l. Scots. At this time it is ſaid that the ſcheme of building the bridge over the North Loch was firſt projected by the Duke.

From the time that King James VI. paid his laſt viſit to Edinburgh in 1618, till the time of the Union in 1707, a conſiderable number of private regulations were made by the magiſtrates; ſome of them evidently calculated for the good of the city, others ſtrongly characteriſtic of that violent ſpirit of fanaticiſm which prevailed ſo much in the laſt century. Among the former was an act paſſed in 1621, that the houſes inſtead of being covered with ſtraw or boards, ſhould have their roofs conſtructed of ſlate, tiles, or lead. This act was renewed in 1667; and in 1698 an act was paſſed, regulating their height alſo.

alſo. By this they were reſtrained to five ſtories, and the thickneſs of the wall determined to be three feet at the bottom. In 1684, a lantern with a candle was ordered to be hung out in the firſt floor of every houſe in order to light the ſtreets at night; and there were two coaches, with four horſes each, ordered to be bought for the uſe of the magiſtrates; but it does not appear how long they continued to be uſed. In 1681 the court of ſeſſion diſcontinued their ſittings in ſummer: but as this was found to be attended with inconvenience, an act was paſſed for their reſtoration, which has continued ever ſince. During the time of the civil war in 1649, the city was viſited by the plague, which is the laſt time that dreadful diſtemper hath made its appearance in this country. The infection was ſo violent, that the city was almoſt depopulated: the priſoners were diſcharged from the tolbooth, and an act was made for giving one Dr Joannes Politius a ſalary of 80 l. Scots *per* month, for viſiting thoſe who were infected with the diſeaſe. In 1677, the firſt coffee-houſes were allowed to be opened, but none without a licence: and the ſame year the town-council regulated the price of penny-weddings; ordaining the men to pay no more than two ſhillings, and the women eighteen pence; very extravagant prices having been exacted before.

In contradiſtinction to theſe ſalutary acts, we may ſtate thoſe which ſhow an extravagant deſire of preſerving the appearance of virtue in the female ſex, as if it had been poſſible for others to inſpire them with virtuous notions, if they had not imbibed them of

themſelves. In 1633, an act of council was paſſed, by which women were forbidden to wear plaids over their faces, under the penalty of five pounds and forfeiture of the plaid for the firſt fault. Baniſhment was the puniſhment of the third. The reaſon aſſigned for this act was, that matrons were not known from ſtrumpets and looſe women, while the plaid continued to be worn over the face. This act was renewed in 1637 and 1638. Succeeding town-councils continued to ſhow the ſame regard to theſe matters; for, in 1695, they enacted, that no innkeeper, vintner, or ale-ſeller, ſhould for the future employ women as waiters or ſervants, under the penalty of five ſhillings Sterling for each.

The following anecdote may perhaps make the virtues of theſe legiſlators themſelves wear a ſuſpicious aſpect. In 1649, the city having borrowed 40,000l. Scots, in order to raiſe their quota of men for his Majeſty, the payment of it was abſolutely refuſed by the town-council, when a demand was made for that purpoſe. That they might not, however, depend entirely upon their own opinion in a matter of ſuch importance, they took that of the General Aſſembly upon the ſubject; and it was determined by theſe reverend divines, that they were not in conſcience bound to pay for an unlawful engagement, which their predeceſſors had entered into. But, in 1652, Cromwell's parliament, who pretended to no leſs ſanctity than they, declared themſelves of a very different opinion; and, on the application of one of the creditors, forced them to repay the ſum.

The treatment which the brave Marquis of Montroſe

troſe met with, likewiſe fixes an indelible ſtigma, both upon the magiſtrates and clergy at that time. Having been put under ſentence of excommunication, no perſon was allowed to ſpeak to him, or do him the leaſt office of friendſhip. Being taken priſoner after his defeat at Philiphaugh, he was met without the city by the magiſtrates and town-guard, and by them conducted in a kind of gloomy proceſſion through the ſtreets bareheaded, in an elevated cart made for the purpoſe; the other priſoners walking two and two before him. At the time of his execution, he was attended by one of the miniſters, who according to his own account, did not chooſe to return till "he had ſeen him caſten over the ladder."

The union in 1707 had almoſt produced a war between the two kingdoms, which it was deſigned to unite; and on that occaſion Edinburgh became a ſcene of the moſt violent diſturbances. During the time the act was paſſing, it was found abſolutely neceſſary for the guards and four regiments of foot to do duty in the city. The diſturbances were augmented by the diſagreement of the two members of parliament; and notwithſtanding the victory gained at that time by the court party, Sir Patrick Johnſton the provoſt, who voted for the union, was obliged afterwards to leave the country. In 1715, the city remained faithful to the royal cauſe, and proper meaſures were taken for its defence. A committee of ſafety was appointed, the city-guard increaſed, and 400 men raiſed at the expence of the town. The trained bands likewiſe were ordered out, 100 of whom mounted guard every night: by which precautions the rebels

bels were prevented from attempting the city: they however made themſelves maſters of the citadel of Leith; but fearing an attack from the duke of Argyle, they abandoned it in the night-time. A ſcheme was even laid for becoming maſters of the caſtle of Edinburgh; for which purpoſe they bribed a ſerjeant to place their ſcaling ladders. Thus ſome of the rebels got up to the top of the walls before any alarm was given; but in the mean time the plot being diſcovered by the ſerjeant's wife, her huſband was hanged over the place where he had attempted to introduce the rebels. The expence of the armament which the city had been at on this occaſion, amounted to about 1700 l., which was repaid by government in the year 1721.

The loyalty of this city was ſtill farther remarkable in the year 1725, when diſturbances were excited in all parts of the kingdom, particularly in the city of Glaſgow, concerning the exciſe-bill; for all remained quiet in Edinburgh, notwithſtanding the violent outcries that were made elſewhere: and ſo remarkable was the tranquillity in the metropolis, that government afterwards returned thanks to the magiſtrates for it. In 1736, however, the city had again the misfortune to fall under the royal diſpleaſure, on the following account. Two ſmugglers having been detected in ſtealing their own goods out of a cuſtom-houſe, were condemned to be hanged. The crime was looked upon as trivial; and therefore, a general murmur prevailed among the populace, which was no doubt heightened by the following accident. At that time it had been cuſtomary for perſons condemned to die, to be carried each Sunday to the church, called from

that

that circumſtance the Tolbooth Church. The two priſoners juſt mentioned, were conducted in the uſual way, guarded by three ſoldiers, to prevent their making their eſcape: but having once gone thither a little before the congregation met, one of the priſoners ſeized one of the guards in each hand, and the other in his teeth, calling out to his companion to run; which he immediately did, with ſuch ſpeed, that he ſoon got out of ſight, and was never heard of afterwards. The perſon who had thus procured the life of his companion without regard to his own, would no doubt become a general object of compaſſion; and, of courſe, when led to the place of execution, the guard were ſeverely pelted by the mob; and ſome of them, according to the teſtimony of the witneſſes who were ſworn on the occaſion, pretty much wounded. By this, Captain Porteous, who commanded the guard, was ſo much provoked, that he gave orders to fire, by which ſix people were killed, and eleven wounded. The evidence, however, even of the fact that the orders to fire were given, appears not to have been altogether unexceptionable; nevertheleſs, on this he was tried and condemned to be executed. At that time the king was abſent at Hanover, having left the regency in the hands of the Queen; and the caſe of the unfortunate Porteous having been repreſented to her, ſhe was pleaſed to grant him a reprieve: but ſuch was the inveteracy of the people againſt him, that they determined not to allow him to avail himſelf of the royal clemency. On the day that had been appointed for his execution, therefore, a number of people aſſembled

aſſembled, ſhut the gates of the city, and burnt the door of the priſon, the ſame which the mob would formerly have broke open in order to murder King James. They then took out Porteous, whom it was found impoſſible to reſcue out of their hands, though every method that the magiſtrates could take for that purpoſe in ſuch a confuſion was made uſe of. It was even proved, that the member of parliament went to the commander in chief, and requeſted that he would ſend a party of ſoldiers to quell the diſturbance, but was abſolutely denied this requeſt, becauſe he could not produce a written order from the provoſt to this purport; which, in the confuſion then exiſting in the city, could neither have been expected to be given by the provoſt, nor would it have been ſafe for any perſon to have carried it about him. Thus the unhappy victim was left in the hands of his executioners; and being dragged by them to the place deſtined for receiving his fate, was hanged on a dyer's ſign-poſt. As they had not brought a rope along with them, they broke open a ſhop where they knew they were to be had; and having taken out what they wanted, left the money upon the table, and retired without committing any other diſorder.

Such an atrocious inſult on Government could not but be highly reſented. A royal proclamation was iſſued, offering a pardon to any accomplice, and a reward of 200 l. to any perſon who would diſcover one of thoſe concerned. The proclamation was ordered to be read from every pulpit in Scotland the firſt Sunday of every month for a twelvemonth: but ſo divided were the people in their opinions about this mat-

ter,

ter, that many of the clergy hesitated exceedingly about complying with the royal order, by which they were brought in danger of being turned out of their livings; while those who complied became so unpopular, that their situation was rendered still worse than the others. All the efforts of government, however, were insufficient to produce any discovery; by which, no doubt, the Court were still more exasperated: and it was now determined to execute vengeance on the magistrates and city at large. Alexander Wilson, the provost at that time, was imprisoned three weeks before he could be admitted to bail; after which, he and the four bailies, with the lords of justiciary, were ordered to attend the house of Peers at London. On their arrival there, a debate ensued, whether the Lords should attend in their robes or not? but at last it was agreed that they should attend in their robes at the bar. This, however, was refused by their lordships, who insisted that they should be examined within the bar; upon which the affair of their examination was dropped altogether. A bill was at last passed both houses, by which it was enacted, that the city of Edinburgh should be fined in 2000 l. for the benefit of Porteous's widow (though she was prevailed upon to accept of 1500 l. for the whole); and the provost was declared incapable of ever serving government again in any capacity whatever. To prevent such catastrophes in time coming, the town-council enacted, that, on the first appearance of an insurrection, the chief officers in the different societies and corporations should repair to the council, to receive the orders of the magistrates

giſtrates for the quelling of the tumult, under the penalty of 8 l. 6 s. 8 d. for each omiſſion.

In 1745, the city was inveſted by the Pretender's army; and on the 17th of September, the Netherbowgate being opened to let a coach paſs, a party of Highlanders, who had reached the gate undiſcovered, ruſhed in, and took poſſeſſion of the city. The inhabitants were commanded to deliver up their arms at the palace of Holyroodhouſe; a certain quantity of military ſtores was required from the city, under pain of military execution; and an aſſeſſment of 2 s. 6 d. upon the pound was impoſed upon the *real* rents within the city and liberties, for defraying that expence.

The Pretender's army guarded all the avenues to the caſtle; but no ſigns of hoſtility enſued till the 25th of the month, when the garriſon being alarmed from ſome unknown cauſe, a number of cannon were diſcharged at the guard placed at the Weſtport, but with very little effect. This gave occaſion to an order to the guard at the weigh-houſe, to prevent all intercourſe betw en the city and caſtle; then the governor acquainted the provoſt by letter, that unleſs the communication was preſerved, he would be obliged to diſlodge the guard by means of artillery. A deputation was next ſent to the Pretender, acquainting him with the danger the city was in, and intreating him to withdraw the guard. With this he refuſed to comply; and the Highland centinels, firing at ſome people who were carrying proviſions into the caſtle, a pretty ſmart cannonading enſued, which ſet on fire ſeveral houſes, killed

killed ſome people, and did other damage. The Pretender then conſented to diſmiſs the guard, and the cannonading ceaſed. After the battle of Culloden, the provoſt of Edinburgh was obliged to ſtand a very long and ſevere trial, firſt at London and then at Edinburgh, for not defending the city againſt the rebels; which, from the ſituation and extent of the walls, every one muſt have ſeen to be impoſſible.

During this trial, a very uncommon circumſtance happened; the jury having ſat two days, inſiſted that they could ſit no longer, and prayed for a ſhort reſpite. As the urgency of the caſe was apparent, and both parties agreed, the court, after long reaſoning, adjourned till the day following, taking the jury bound under a penalty of 500 l. each; when the court continued ſitting two days longer, and the jury were one day incloſed. The event was, that the provoſt was exculpated.

After the battle of Culloden the Duke of Cumberland cauſed fourteen of the rebel ſtandards to be burned at the croſs: that of the pretender was carried by the common executioner, the others by chimney-ſweepers; the heralds proclaiming the name of the commanders to whom they belonged, as they were thrown into the fire. At this time the city of Edinburgh felt a temporary inconvenience, from the election of their magiſtrates not having taken place at the uſual time; ſo that it became neceſſary to apply to his majeſty for the reſtoration of the government of the city. This was readily granted, the burgeſſes being allowed a poll-tax; after which an entire new ſet of magiſtrates was returned, all of

them friends to the Houſe of Hanover; and ſoon after, the freedom of the city in a gold box was preſented to the Duke of Cumberland.

With theſe tranſactions all interferences betwixt Government and the metropolis of Scotland were ended; the reſt of its hiſtory therefore only conſiſts of internal occurrences, the regulations made by its own magiſtrates for the benefit of the city, their applications to government for leave to improve it, or the execution of theſe improvements; of which we ſhall now give a brief detail.

In the year 1716, the city firſt beſtowed a ſettled ſalary on the provoſt, in order to enable him to ſupport the dignity of firſt magiſtrate. This was at firſt 300 l.; but has ſince been augmented to 500 l., which his lordſhip ſtill enjoys. In 1718 it was recommended to the magiſtrates to diſtinguiſh themſelves by wearing coats of black velvet, for which they were allowed 10 l.; but this act being abrogated in 1754, gold chains were aſſigned as badges of their office, which they ſtill continue to wear. Provoſt Kincaid happened to die in office in the year 1777; which being a very rare accident, perhaps the only one of the kind to be met with in the records of Edinburgh, he was buried with great ſolemnity, and a vaſt concourſe of people attended.

Tumults have been frequent in Edinburgh, chiefly on account of the dearneſs of proviſions. In 1740, Bell's mills were firſt attacked by the populace, and afterwards Leith mills: nor could the rioters be diſperſed till the military had fired among them, and wounded three, of whom one died; and it was found

found neceſſary to order ſome dragoons into the city in order to preſerve tranquillity. In 1742, another violent tumult took place, owing to a cuſtom of ſtealing dead bodies from their graves for anatomical purpoſes, which had then become common. The populace beat to arms, threatened deſtruction to the ſurgeons, and, in ſpite of all the efforts of the magiſtrates, demoliſhed the houſe of the beadle at St Cuthbert's. In 1756, new diſturbances, which required the aſſiſtance of the military, took place: the cauſe at this time was the impreſſing of men for the war which was then commencing. A diſturbance was likewiſe excited in 1760. This was occaſioned by the footmen, who till then were allowed to follow their maſters into the playhouſe, and now took upon them to diſturb the entertainment of the company; the conſequence of which was, that they were turned out, and have ever ſince been obliged to wait for their maſters. In 1763 and 1765, the tumults on account of the price of proviſions were renewed; many of the meal-mongers had their houſes broken open and their ſhops deſtroyed. The magiſtrates, as uſual, were obliged to call in a party of dragoons, to quell the diſturbance; but at the ſame time, to put an effectual ſtop, as far as was in their power, to theſe proceedings for the future, they gave ſecurity, that people who brought grain or proviſion into the market ſhould be ſecured in their property. Since that time there have been no tumults directly on the account of proviſions; though, in 1784, a terrible riot and attack of a diſtillery at Canonmills took place, on a ſuppoſition that the diſtillers en-

hanced the price of meal by uſing unmalted grain. The attack was repelled by the ſervants of the diſtillery; but the mob could not be quelled until the ſheriff called the ſoldiers quartered in the caſtle to his aſſiſtance. The ſame night a party of rioters ſet out for Ford, a place ten miles to the ſouthward, where there was likewiſe a large diſtillery; which, as there was none to make any oppoſition, they ſoon deſtroyed. One man was killed in this riot at Edinburgh, by the fire of a ſervant of the diſtillery, and ſeveral of the rioters were afterwards ſecured and puniſhed.

In the years 1778 and 1779, two very alarming diſturbances happened, which threatened a great deal of bloodſhed, though happily they were terminated without any. The firſt was a mutiny of the Earl of Seaforth's Highland regiment, who were at this time quartered in the caſtle. Theſe having been ordered to embark, for ſome reaſon or other, unanimouſly refuſed, and poſted themſelves on the top of Arthur's ſeat, where they continued for two days. Troops were collected to prevent their eſcape, and the inhabitants were ordered to keep within doors at the firſt toll of the great bell, which was to be a ſignal of violence about to take place; but fortunately all the fears, naturally ariſing from the expectation of this event, were diſſipated by an accommodation. The other happened on account of the attempt to repeal the penal laws againſt the papiſts; and was much more alarming than the other, as being the effect of a premeditated ſcheme, and determined reſolution to oppoſe government. On the 2d of February 1779, a mob aſſembled in the evening, burned a popiſh chapel, and plundered

dered another. Next day they renewed their depredations; deſtroying and carrying off the books, furniture, &c. of ſeveral Popiſh prieſts, and others of that perſuaſion. The riot continued all that day, though the aſſiſtance of the military was called in; but happily no lives were loſt, nor was there any firing. The city was afterwards obliged to make good the damage ſuſtained by the Catholics on this occaſion, which was eſtimated at 1500 l.

We ſhall cloſe this hiſtory of Edinburgh with a general account of the improvements which have lately taken place in it, and of which a particular deſcription will afterwards be given. Theſe began in the year 1753, when the foundation-ſtone of the Exchange was laid; at which time, there was a grand proceſſion, and the greateſt concourſe of people ever known in Edinburgh. A triumphal arch was erected for the purpoſe, through which the proceſſion paſſed, and medals were ſcattered among the populace. In 1756, the high ſtreet was cleared by the removal of the croſs; though many regreted this, on account of its being a very ancient and elegant building. In the middle, it had an unicorn placed on the top of a pillar 20 feet high; but this fine ornament was broken to pieces, by the giving way of the tackle by which it was attempted to remove it.

It is now again erected at Drum, a ſeat belonging to Lord Sommerville, about four miles from Edinburgh. In 1763, the firſt ſtone of the North Bridge was laid by Provoſt Drummond; and, in 1767, an act of parliament was obtained for extending the royalty

of the city, over the fields to the northward, where the New Town is now ſituated. About the ſame time, a ſpot of ground upon the ſouth ſide of the town was purchaſed by a private perſon for 1200 l., which being feued out for building, gave riſe to the increaſe of the town on that quarter; and this proceeded the more rapidly, as the houſes built there were free from the dues impoſed upon others, ſubject to the royalty. In 1774, the foundation of the Regiſter-Office was laid. In 1784, the project for rendering the acceſs to the town equally eaſy on both ſides, was begun to be put in execution, by laying the foundation of the South Bridge. At the ſame time, a great improvement was made by reducing the height of the ſtreet, ſeveral feet all the way from the place where the croſs ſtood to the Netherbow; by which means, the aſcent is rendered more eaſy, not only for carriages, but alſo for perſons who walk on foot. At the ſame time, the ſtreet was farther cleared by the removal of the town guard-houſe, which had long been complained of as an incumbrance. It it ſtill farther in contemplation to remove the Luckenbooths: and when this is accompliſhed, with other improvements, by which it muſt neceſſarily be accompanied, it is to be queſtioned, whether any city in Britain will be able to vie with Edinburgh in elegance and beauty.

Having thus given a conciſe hiſtory of the city from its earlieſt foundation, we ſhall now proceed to deſcribe it in its moſt improved ſtate.

DESCRIP-

DESCRIPTION OF EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH is ſituated upon a ſteep hill, riſing from eaſt to weſt, and terminating in a high and inacceſſible rock, upon which the caſtle ſtands. At the eaſt end or lower extremity of this hill, ſtands the abbey of Holyrood-houſe, or King's palace, diſtant from the caſtle upwards of a mile; and, betwixt which, along the top of the ridge, and almoſt in a ſtraight line, runs the high-ſtreet. On each ſide, and parallel to this ridge or hill, is another ridge of ground, lower than that in the middle, and which does not extend ſo far to the eaſt; that on the ſouth, being intercepted by Saliſbury-rocks and Arthur's-ſeat, a hill of about 800 feet of perpendicular height; and that on the north by the Calton-hill, conſiderably lower than Arthur's ſeat: ſo that the ſituation of this city is moſt ſingular and romantic; the eaſt or lower part of the town, lying between two hills, and the weſt or higher part riſing up towards a third hill, little inferior in height to the higheſt of the other two, upon which, as has been obſerved, the caſtle is built, and overlooks the town.

The buildings of the town, terminate at the diſtance of about 200 yards from the caſtle-gate; which ſpace affords a moſt delightful as well as convenient and healthful walk to the inhabitants. The proſpect from this ſpot, is perhaps the fineſt any where to be met with, for extent, beauty, and variety.

In the valley or hollow betwixt the mid and the ſouth ridges, and nearly parallel to the high-ſtreet, is

is another ſtreet called the Cowgate; and the town has now extended itſelf over moſt part of that ſouth ridge alſo. Betwixt the mid and the north ridges, was a loch, which, till of very late, terminated the town on that ſide. From the high-ſtreet towards the loch on the north, and Cowgate on the ſouth, run narrow croſs ſtreets or lanes, called wynds and cloſes, which grow ſteeper and ſteeper, the farther weſt or nearer the caſtle; ſo that, were it not for the cloſeneſs and great height of the buildings, this city, from its ſituation and plan, might naturally be expected to be the beſt aired, as well as the cleaneſt in Europe. The former, notwithſtanding theſe diſadvantages, it enjoys in an eminent degree; but we cannot compliment it upon the latter, notwithſtanding every poſſible means has been uſed by the magiſtrates for that purpoſe.

The ſteepneſs of the aſcent, makes the acceſs to the high-ſtreet from the north and ſouth very difficult; which, no doubt, greately retarded the enlargement of the city. To remedy this inconvenience on the north, and with a view to extend the town on that quarter, a moſt elegant bridge has been thrown over the north loch, which joins the north ridge to the middle of the high-ſtreet, by ſo eaſy an aſcent, as one in ſixteen; and in purſuance of the deſign, a plan of a new town to the north was fixed upon, and is now nearly finiſhed, with an elegance and taſte that does honour to this country. In like manner, to facilitate the acceſs from the ſouth ſide, a bridge has been thrown over the valley, through which the Cowgate

Cowgate runs; which, if not equally elegant with the north bridge, is certainly as convenient.

The gradual increaſe of the city of Edinburgh may in ſome degree be underſtood from the traces of its ancient walls that ſtill remain. James II. in 1450, firſt beſtowed on the community the privilege of fortifying the city with a wall, and empowered them to levy a tax upon the inhabitants for defraying the expence. When the city was firſt fortified, the wall reached no farther than the preſent water-houſe or reſervoir, on the caſtle-hill: from thence to the foot of Halkerſton's wynd, juſt below the new bridge, the city was defended by the north-loch, an inconſiderable moraſs, which, being formerly overflowed, formed a ſmall lake, that hath ſince been drained. From this place to the foot of Leith-wynd, it does not appear how the city was fortified: but from the foot of Leith-wynd to the Netherbow-port it was defended only by a range of houſes; and when theſe had become ruinous, a wall was built in their place. The original wall of Edinburgh, therefore, began at the foot of the north-eaſt rock of the caſtle. Here it was ſtrengthened by a ſmall fortreſs, the ruins of which are ſtill to be ſeen, and are called the *Well-houſe Tower*, from their having a ſpring in their neighbourhood. When the wall came oppoſite to the reſervoir, it was carried quite acroſs the hill, having a gate on the top for making a communication between the town and caſtle. In going down the hill, it went ſlanting in an oblique direction to the firſt angle in going down the Weſt-bow, where was a gate named the *Upper-bow Port*, one of the hooks

hooks of which ſtill remains. Thence it proceeded eaſtward, in ſuch a manner as would have cut off not only all the Cowgate, but ſome part of the Parliament-houſe; and being continued as far as the Mint-cloſe, it turned to the north-eaſt, and connected itſelf with the buildings on the north ſide of the high-ſtreet, where was the original Netherbow-port, about 50 yards weſt from that which afterwards went by the ſame name.

Soon after the building of this wall, a new ſtreet was formed on the outſide of it, named the *Cowgate*, which, in the 16th century, became the reſidence of the nobility, the ſenators of the college of juſtice, and other perſons of the firſt diſtinction. After the fatal battle of Flowden, however, the inhabitants of the Cowgate became very anxious to have themſelves defended by a wall as well as the reſt. The wall of the city was therefore extended to its preſent limits. This new wall begins on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the rock on which the caſtle is built, and to which the town-wall comes quite cloſe. From thence it deſcends obliquely to the Weſt-port; then aſcends part of a hill on the other ſide, called the *High Riggs*; after which, it runs eaſtward with but little alteration in its courſe to the Briſto and Potterrow ports, and from thence to the Pleaſance. Here it takes a northerly direction, which it keeps from thence to the Cowgate-port; after which the incloſure is completed to the Netherbow by the houſes of St Mary's wynd. The original Netherbow-port being found not well adapted for defence was pulled down, and a new one built in 1571, by the adherents

rents of Queen Mary. In 1606, the late handſome building was erected about 50 yards below the place where the former ſtood. It was two ſtories high, and had an elegant ſpire in the middle; but being thought to encumber the ſtreet, and the whole building being in a crazy ſituation, it was pulled down by order of the magiſtrates in 1764.

In the original wall of Edinburgh, there was, as has been already obſerved, a port on the caſtle-hill. On the extenſion of the wall, after building the houſes in the Cowgate, this gate was pulled down. That in the upper or Weſt-bow ſtood for a much longer time, and was pulled down within the memory of ſome perſons lately or perhaps ſtill living. Beſides theſe, there was a third, about 50 yards above the head of the Canongate; but whether there were any more, is uncertain. The ports or gates of the new wall were, 1. The *Weſt-port*, ſituated at the extremity of the Graſs-market; beyond which lies a ſuburb of the town and a borough of regality, called *Portſburgh*. Next to this is a wicket, ſtruck out of the town-wall in 1744, for the purpoſe of making an eaſier communication between the town and the public walks in the meadows, than by Briſto-port. The next to this was *Briſto-port*, built in 1515; beyond which lies a ſuburb called *Briſto-ſtreet*. At a ſmall diſtance from Briſto was the *Potter-row Port*, which took this name from a manufactory of earthen ware in the neighbourhood. Formerly it was called *Kirk of Field Port*. Between this and the Cowgate-port ſtood another, called *St Mary's Wynd Port*, which extended from eaſt to weſt acroſs the foot

foot of the Pleaſance, and which was demoliſhed only ſince the middle of the laſt century.—Cloſe to the middle of this ſtood the *Cowgate-Port*; which opened a communication between the Cowgate and St Mary's Wynd, and the Pleaſance.—The *Netherbow Port* has been already ſpoken of.—At the foot of Leith-wynd was another gate, known by the name of *Leith-wynd Port*, and within it was a wicket giving acceſs to the church of Trinity College, and which ſtill remains. At the foot of Halkerſton's wynd was another, which, as well as the former, was built about the year 1560. Both of of theſe were pulled down ſome years ago, and all the reſt in 1785.—Another ſtill remains at the foot of the Canongate, known by the name of the *Watergate*.

For 250 years the city of Edinburgh occupied the ſame ſpace of ground, and it is but very lately that its limits have been ſo conſiderably enlarged. In the middle of the 16th century, it is deſcribed as extending in length about an Italian mile, and about half as much in breadth; which anſwers very nearly to its preſent limits, the late enlargements only excepted. This ſpace of ground, however, was not at that time occupied in the manner it is at preſent. The houſes were neither ſo high nor ſo crowded upon each other as they are now. This was a conſequence of the number of inhabitants increaſing, which has occaſioned the raiſing of the houſes to ſuch an height as is perhaps not to be paralleled in any other part of the world. Till the time of the Reformation, the burying-ground of the city extended

tended over all the ſpace occupied by the Parliament-ſquare, and from thence to the Cowgate. The lands lying to the ſouthward of the Cowgate were chiefly laid out in gardens belonging to the convent of Blackfriars, and the church of St Mary in the Field. Theſe extended almoſt from the Pleaſance to the Potterrow-port. From the Briſto to the Weſt port, the ground was laid out in gardens belonging to the Gray-friars. The magiſtrates, on their application to Queen Mary, obtained a grant of the Gray-friars gardens for a burying-place; for which it was given as a reaſon, that they were ſomewhat diſtant from the town. Here, however, it muſt be underſtood, that theſe gardens were diſtant from the houſes, and not without the walls; for they had been incloſed by them long before. In the time of James I. the houſes within the walls ſeem to have been, in general, if not univerſally, covered with thatch or broom, and not above 20 feet high. Even in the year 1621, theſe roofs were ſo common, that they were prohibited by act of Parliament, in order to prevent accidents from fire. In the middle of the laſt century, there were neither courts nor ſquares in Edinburgh. The Parliament cloſe or ſquare is the oldeſt of this kind in the city. Miln's ſquare, James's court, &c. were built long after; and Argyle's and Brown's ſquares within theſe 50 years.

New Town.

The *New Town* was projected in the year 1752; but as the magiſtrates could not then procure an

extenſion of the royalty, the execution of the deſign was ſuſpended for ſome time. In 1767, an act was obtained, by which the royalty was extended over the fields to the northward of the city; upon which advertiſements were publiſhed by the magiſtrates, deſiring proper plans to be given in. Plans were given in accordingly, and that deſigned by Mr James Craig architect was adopted. Immediately afterwards, people were invited to purchaſe lots from the town-council; and ſuch as purchaſed became bound to conform to the rules of the plan. In the mean time, however, the town-council had ſecretly reſerved to themſelves a privilege of departing from their own plan; which they afterwards made uſe of in ſuch a manner as produced a law-ſuit. According to the plan held forth to the purchaſers, a canal was to be made through the place where the north loch had been, and the bank on the north ſide of it laid out in terraces: but inſtead of this, by an act of council, liberty was reſerved to the town to build upon this ſpot; and therefore, when many gentlemen had built genteel houſes in the new town, on faith of the plan, they were ſurpriſed to find the ſpot appointed for terraces and a canal, beginning to be covered with mean irregular buildings, and work-houſes for tradeſmen. This deviation was immediately complained of; but as the magiſtrates ſhowed no inclination to grant any redreſs, a proſecution was commenced againſt them before the Lords of Seſſion. In that court the cauſe was given againſt the purſuers, who thereupon appealed to the Houſe of Lords. Here the

ſentence

ſentence of the Court of Seſſion was reverſed, and the cauſe remitted to the conſideration of their Lordſhips. At laſt, after an expenſive conteſt, matters were acommodated. The principal term of accommodation was, that ſome part of the ground was to be laid out in terraces and a canal; but the time of diſpoſing it in that manner was reſerved to the Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. The fall of part of the bridge, hereafter mentioned, proved a very conſiderable diſadvantage to the new town; as it neceſſarily induced a ſuſpicion, that the paſſage, by means of the bridge, could never be rendered ſafe. An overſight of the magiſtrates proved of more eſſential detriment. A piece of ground lay to the ſouthward of the old town, in a ſituation very proper for building. This the magiſtrates had an opportunity of purchaſing for 1200 l.; which, however, they neglected, and it was bought by a private perſon, who immediately feued it out in lots for building, as has been already mentioned. The magiſtrates then began to ſee the conſequence; namely, that this ſpot being free from the duties to which the royalty of Edinburgh is ſubject, people would chooſe to reſide there rather than in the New Town. Upon this they offered the purchaſer 2000 l. for the ground for which he had paid 1200 l.; but as he demanded 20,000 l. the bargain did not take place. Notwithſtanding theſe diſcouragements, the New Town is now almoſt finiſhed; and, from the advantages of its ſituation, and its being built according to a regular plan, it hath undoubtedly a ſu-

periority over any city in Britain. By its ſituation, however, it is remarkably expoſed to ſtorms of wind, which, at Edinburgh, ſometimes rage with uncommon violence.

It has three ſtreets, almoſt a mile in length, running from eaſt to weſt, interſected with croſs ſtreets at proper diſtances. The moſt northerly, called *Queen's Street*, is 100 feet broad, and commands an extenſive proſpect of the Forth, the country of Fife, and the ſhipping in the river. That called *George's Street*, which is in the middle, is no leſs than 115 feet wide. It is terminated at each end by two very elegant and extenſive ſquares; that on the eaſt end is called *St Andrew's Square*; the other, though not yet finiſhed, nor indeed begun, is to be named *Charlotte's Square*. Prince's ſtreet is the moſt ſoutherly, and extends from the northern extremity of the bridge, quite to the weſt end of the town; though, as that is not yet finiſhed, we cannot ſay whether it will be done exactly according to the plan laid down, as there has been a propoſal made by a private perſon, of continuing the whole a conſiderable way farther to the weſtward, to end in a circus. The reaſon given for this propoſed innovation is, that the road to Glaſgow and other parts in the weſt, will thus be rendered more eaſy, as it will then ly along the New Bridge, over the Water of Leith at Bell's mills, which is much more convenient than that juſt now in uſe.

The moſt remarkable public buildings in Edinburgh are:

THE

The Castle.

This fortreſs ſtands on a high rock, acceſſible only on the eaſt ſide. On all others it is very ſteep, and in ſome places perpendicular. It is about 300 feet high from its baſe: ſo that, before the invention of artillery, it might well have been deemed impregnable; though the event ſhowed that it was not. —The entry to this fortreſs, is defended by an outer barrier of palliſadoes; within this is a dry ditch, draw-bridge, and gate, defended by two batteries which flank it; and the whole is commanded by an half-moon mounted with braſs cannon, carrying balls of 12 pounds. Beyond theſe are two gate-ways, the firſt of which is very ſtrong, and has two portcullices. Immediately beyond the ſecond gate-way, on the right hand, is a battery mounted with braſs cannon, carrying balls of 12 and 18 pounds weight.

On the north ſide, are a mortar and ſome gun batteries.—The upper part of the caſtle contains a half-moon battery, a chapel, a parade for exerciſe, and a number of houſes in the form of a ſquare, which are laid out in barracks for the officers. Beſides theſe, there are other barracks ſufficient to contain 1000 men; a powder magazine, bomb proof; a grand arſenal capable of containing 8000 ſtand of arms; and other apartments for the ſame uſe, which can contain 22,000 more: ſo that 30,000 ſtand of arms may be conveniently lodged in this caſtle.—On the eaſt ſide of the ſquare above mentioned, were formerly royal apartments; in one of which King James VI. was

born, and which is ſtill ſhown to thoſe who viſit the caſtle. In another, the regalia of Scotland were depoſited on the 26th of March 1707, and are ſaid to be ſtill kept there; but they are never ſhown to any body. Hence a ſuſpicion has ariſen, that they have been carried to London; which is the more confirmed, as the keeper of the jewel-office in the tower of London ſhows a crown which he calls that of Scotland; and it is certain, that the door of what is called the *Crown-room*, has not been publicly known to be opened ſince the union.

The governor of the caſtle is generally a nobleman, whoſe place is worth about 1000 l. a-year; and that of deputy-governor, 500 l. This laſt reſides in the houſe appointed for the governor, as the latter never inhabits it. There is alſo a fort-major, a ſtore-keeper, maſter gunner, and chaplain: but as this laſt does not reſide in the caſtle, worſhip is ſeldom performed in the chapel. The Parliament-Houſe was formerly included in the great ſquare on the top, and the royal gardens were in the marſh, afterwards called the *North-loch*; the King's ſtables being on the ſouth ſide, where the houſes ſtill retain the name, and the place where the barns were ſtill retain the name of Caſtle-barns.

The caſtle is defended by a company of invalids, and four or five hundred men, belonging to ſome marching regiment, though it can accommodate 1000, as above mentioned; and this number has been ſometimes kept in it. Its natural ſtrength of ſituation was not ſufficient to render it impregnable, even before the invention of artillery, as we have already obſerved;

obſerved; much leſs would it be capable of ſecuring it againſt the attacks of a modern army well provided with cannon. It could not in all probability withſtand, even for a few hours, a well directed bombardment: for no part but the powder magazine is capable of reſiſting thoſe deſtructive machines; and the ſplinters from the rock, on which the caſtle is built, could not fail to render them ſtill more formidable. Beſides, the water of the well, which is very bad, and drawn up from a depth of 100 feet, is apt to ſubſide on the continued diſcharge of artillery, which produces a concuſſion in the rock.

The Tolbooth.

The *Tolbooth* was erected in 1561, not for the purpoſes merely of a priſon, but likewiſe for the accommodation of the parliament and other courts; but it has ſince become ſo very unfit for any of theſe purpoſes, that it is now propoſed to pull it down, and rebuild it in ſome other place; eſpecially as it is very inconvenient in its preſent ſituation, on account of its incumbering the ſtreet. The provoſt is captain of the tolbooth, with a gaoler under him: and the latter has a monoply of all the proviſions for the priſoners: a circumſtance which muſt certainly be conſidered as a grievous oppreſſion; thoſe who are leaſt able to purchaſe them, being thus obliged to do ſo at the higheſt price. There is a chaplain who has a ſalary of 30 l. a-year.

The

The Parliament House.

The *Parliament Houſe*, in the great hall of which the Scottiſh Parliament uſed to aſſemble, is a magnificent building. The hall is 123 feet long, and 42 broad, with a fine arched roof of oak, painted and gilded. In this the lawyers and agents now attend the courts, and ſingle judges ſit to determine cauſes in the firſt inſtance, or to prepare them for the whole court, who ſit in an inner room formerly appropriated to the privy-council. In a nich of the wall is placed a fine marble ſtatue of Preſident Forbes, erected at the expence of the Faculty of Advocates. There are alſo full length portraits of King William III. Queen Mary his conſort, and Queen Anne, all done by Sir Godfrey Kneller; alſo of George I. John Duke of Argyle, and Archibald Duke of Argyle, by Mr Aikman of Cairney.

Above ſtairs are the *Court of Exchequer* and *Treaſury Chamber*, with the different offices belonging to that department; and below is one of the moſt valuable liberaries in Great Britain, belonging to the faculty of advocates. Beſides 30,000 printed volumes, there are many ſcarce and valuable manuſcripts, medals, and coins: here is alſo an entire mummy in its original cheſt, preſented to the faculty (at the expence of 300 l.) by the Earl of Morton, late preſident of the royal ſociety. As theſe rooms are immediately below the hall where the parliament ſat, they are ſubject to a ſearch by the Lord High Conſtable of Scotland ever ſince the gun-powder plot;

plot; and this is ſpecified in the gift from the city to the faculty. This library was founded in the year 1682, by Sir George Mackenzie lord advocate. Among other privileges, it is entitled to a copy of every book entered in ſtationer's hall. Before the great door is a noble equeſtrian ſtatue of Charles II. the proportions of which are reckoned exceedingly juſt. Over the entrance are the arms of Scotland, with Mercy and Truth on each ſide for ſupporters.

The *Court of Seſſion*, the ſupreme tribunal in Scotland, conſiſts of 15 judges, who ſit on a circular bench, clothed in purple robes turned up with crimſon velvet. Six of theſe are Lords of the Juſticiary, and go the circuit twice a-year; but, in that capacity, they wear ſcarlet robes turned up with white ſattin.

The Council Chamber.

Adjoining to the Parliament-houſe, upon the north-weſt corner, there is a large hall, fitted up for the accommodation of the magiſtrates and town-council: Here the Council hold their meetings; and a magiſtrate attends daily, for the diſcuſſion of all matters relative to the police of the city.

St Giles's Church.

St Giles's Church is a beautiful Gothic building, meaſuring in length 206 feet. At the weſt end, its breadth is 110; in the middle, 129; and at the eaſt

eaſt end, 76 feet. It has a very elevated ſituation, and is adorned with a lofty ſquare tower; from the ſides and corners of which riſe arches of figured ſtone-work; theſe meeting with each other in the middle, complete the figure of an imperial crown, the top of which terminates in a pointed ſpire. The whole height of this tower is 161 feet.

This is the moſt ancient church in Edinburgh. From a paſſage in an old author called *Simeon Dunelmenſis*, ſome conjecture it to have been built before the year 854; but we do not find expreſs mention made of it before 1359. The tutelar ſaint of this church, and of Edinburgh, was St Giles, a native of Greece. He lived in the ſixth century, and was deſcended of an illuſtrious family. On the death of his parents, he gave all his eſtate to the poor; and travelled into France, where he retired into a wilderneſs near the conflux of the Rhone with the ſea, and continued there three years. Having obtained the reputation of extraordinary ſanctity, various miracles were attributed to him; and he founded a monaſtery in Languedoc, known long after by the name of *St Giles's*.—In the reign of James II. Mr Preſton of Gorton, a gentleman whoſe deſcendants ſtill poſſeſs an eſtate in the county of Edinburgh, got poſſeſſion of the arm of this ſaint; which relic he bequeathed to the church of Edinburgh. In gratitude for this donation, the magiſtrates granted a charter in favour of Mr Preſton's heirs, by which the neareſt heir of the name of Preſton was entitled to carry it in all proceſſions. At the ſame time, the magiſtrates obliged themſelves to found an altar

in

in the church of St Giles's, and appoint a chaplain for celebrating an annual maſs for the ſoul of Mr Preſton; and likewiſe, that a tablet, containing his arms, and an account of his pious donation, ſhould be put up in the chapel.—St Giles's was firſt ſimply a pariſh-church, of which the biſhop of Landisfarn, or Holy Iſland, in the county of Northumberland, was patron. He was ſucceeded in the patronage by the abbot and canons of Dunfermline, and they by the magiſtrates of Edinburgh. In 1466, it was erected into a collegiate church by James III.

At the Reformation, the church was, for the greater convenience, divided into ſeveral parts. The four principal ones are appropriated to divine worſhip; the leſſer ones to other purpoſes. The chief of theſe diviſions is called the

New Church.

This Church has been lately repaired and new ſeated. There is a very elegant and finely ornamented ſeat for his majeſty, with a canopy ſupported by four Corinthian pillars, decorated in high taſte. This ſeat is uſed by the king's commiſſioner during the time the General Aſſembly ſits. On the right hand is a ſeat for the Lord High Conſtable of Scotland, whoſe office it is to keep the peace within doors in his Majeſty's preſence; it being the duty of the Earl Marſhal to do the ſame without. The ſeats belonging to the Lords of Council and Seſſion, are on the right of the Lord High Conſtable; and on

on the left of the throne, was a ſeat for the Lord High Chancellor of Scotland; but that office being now aboliſhed, the ſeat is occupied by others. On the left of this ſit the Barons of Exchequer; and, to the left of them, the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Town-Council. The pulpit, King's ſeat, and galleries, are covered with crimſon velvet, with gold and ſilk fringes.

The Old Church.

The central part of St Giles is fitted up as a place of worſhip, for the accommodation of the citizens, and called the Old Church.

The Tolbooth Church.

Upon the reformation, the preſbyterians conceived an immoderate averſion at beſtowing the names of any of the ſaints upon their churches; but diſtinguiſhed them by ſome circumſtance reſpecting the time or manner of erection, of vicinity, &c. This church accordingly, which occupies the ſouth-weſt quarter of St Giles's, from its vicinity to the priſon houſe, was termed the Tolbooth church.

Haddow's-hole Church.

This occupies the north weſt part of St Giles's. It was not fitted up as a place of worſhip till A. D. 1699.

1699. It takes the name of *Haddow's-hole* from its having been made a prison in which a gentleman of the name of Haddow was long confined.

At the time of the Reformation, too, the religious utensils belonging to this church were seized by the magistrates. They were,— St Giles's arm, enshrined in silver, weighing five pounds three ounces and a half; a silver chalice, or communion cup, weighing 23 ounces; the great *eucharist* or communion cup, with *golden wreike and stones*; two cruets of 25 ounces; a golden bell, with a heart, of four ounces and a half; a golden unicorn; a golden pix, to keep the host; a small golden heart with two pearls; a diamond ring; a silver chalice, patine, and spoon, of 32 ounces and a half: a communion table-cloth of gold brocade; *St Giles's coat*, with a little piece of red velvet which hung at his feet; a round silver *eucharist*; two silver censers, of three pounds fifteen ounces; a silver ship for incense; a large silver cross, with its base, weighing sixteen pounds thirteen ounces and a half; a triangular silver lamp; two silver candlesticks of seven pounds three ounces; other two, of eight pounds thirteen ounces; a silver chalice gilt, of 20 ounces and a half; a silver chalice and cross, of 75 ounces; besides the priests robes, and other vestments, of gold brocade, crimson velvet embroidered with gold, and and green damask.—These were all sold, and part of the money applied to the repairs of the church; the the rest was added to the funds of the corporation.

In the steeple of St Giles's church are three very large bells and some smaller ones. There are also a

ſet of muſic bells, which play every day between one and two o'clock, or at any time in the caſe of rejoicings.

The aiſle of St Giles's church is fitted up with ſeats for the general aſſembly who meet here; and there is a throne for his majeſty's commiſſioner with a canopy of crimſon ſilk damaſk, having the king's arms, embroidered with gold, preſented by the late Lord Cathcart to his ſucceſſor in office. In this church is a monument dedicated to the memory of Lord Napier, baron of Merchiſton, well known as the inventor of logarithms; a ſecond to the Earl of Murray, regent of Scotland, during the minority of James VI.; and a third to the great Marquis of Montroſe.

Signet-Office.

There is a hall in the Writers Court belonging to the clerks to his majeſty's ſignet, where there is alſo an office for the buſineſs of the ſignet. The office of keeper of the ſignet is very lucrative, and he is allowed a depute and clerks under him. Before any one enters into this ſociety he muſt attend the college for two years, and ſerve five years as an apprentice to one of the ſociety. There is a good library belonging to this hall, which is rapidly increaſing, as every one who enters muſt pay 10l. towards it. He pays alſo 100l. of apprentice-fee, and 100l. when he enters.

The

The Exchange.

The *Exchange* is a large and elegant building, with a court of about 90 feet ſquare in the middle. On the north ſide are piazzas, where people can walk under cover, the other three ſides being laid out in ſhops; but the merchants have not made uſe of it to meet in, ſtill ſtanding in the ſtreet as formerly. The back part of the building is uſed for the general *Cuſtom-houſe* of Scotland, where the commiſſioners meet to tranſact buſineſs. They have above 20 offices for the different departments, to which the acceſs is by a hanging ſtair 60 feet in height. In looking over the window before he aſcends this ſtair, a ſtranger is ſurpriſed to find himſelf already 40 feet from the ground, which is owing to the declivity on which the exchange is built. For the cuſtom-houſe rooms the city receives a rent of 1l. *per* day.

The *Truſtees Office* for the improvement of fiſheries and manufactures in Scotland, is in the ſouth-weſt corner of the Exchange; the fund under their management being part of the equivalent money given to Scotland at the Union. This is diſtributed in premiums amongſt thoſe who appear to have made any conſiderable improvement in the arts.

The North Bridge.

The *North Bridge*, which forms the main paſſage of communication betwixt the Old and New Towns,

was founded, as has already been obſerved, in 1763, by Provoſt Drummond; but the contract for building it was not ſigned till Auguſt 21ſt 1765. The architect was Mr William Mylne, who agreed with the town-council of Edinburgh to finiſh the work for 19,140 l. and to uphold it for 10 years. It was alſo to be finiſhed before Martinmas 1769: but on the 3d of Auguſt that year, when the work was nearly completed, the vaults and ſide-walls on the ſouth fell down, and five people were buried in the ruins. This misfortune was occaſioned by the foundation having been laid, not upon the ſolid earth, but upon the rubbiſh of the houſes which had long before been built on the north ſide of the high-ſtreet, and which had been thrown out into the hollow to the northward. Of this rubbiſh there were no leſs than eight feet between the foundation of the bridge and the ſolid earth. Beſides this deficiency in the foundation, an immenſe load of earth, which had been laid over the vaults and arches, in order to raiſe the bridge to a proper level, had no doubt contributed to produce the cataſtrophe above mentioned. The bridge was repaired, by pulling down ſome parts of the ſide-walls, and afterwards rebuilding them; ſtrengthening them in others with chain-bars; removing the quantity of earth laid upon the vaults, and ſupplying its place with hollow arches, &c. The whole was ſupported at the ſouth end by very ſtrong buttreſſes and counterforts on each ſide; but on the north it has only a ſingle ſupport. The whole length of the bridge, from the High-ſtreet in the Old Town, to Prince's-ſtreet in the New, is 1125 feet; the total length

length of the piers and arches is 310 feet. The width of the three great arches is 72 feet each; of the piers, 13 one half feet; and of the ſmall arches, each 20 feet. The height of the great arches, from the top of the parapet to the baſe, is 68 feet; the breadth of the bridge within the wall over the arches, is 40 feet, and the breadth at each end 50 feet. On the ſouthern extremity of this bridge ſtands the General Poſt Office for Scotland; a neat plain building, with a proper number of apartments for the buſineſs, and a houſe for the ſecretary.

The communication betwixt the two towns by means of this bridge, though very complete and convenient for ſuch as lived in certain parts of either, was yet found inſufficient for thoſe who inhabited the weſtern diſtricts. Another bridge being therefore neceſſary, it was propoſed to fill up the valley occaſionally with the rubbiſh dug out in making the foundations of houſes in the New Town; and ſo great was the quantity, that this was accompliſhed ſo as to be fit for the paſſage of carriages in little more than four years and a half.

THE THEATRE,

STANDS oppoſite to the Regiſter Office, in the middle of Shakeſpeare Square. The building is plain on the outſide, but elegantly fitted up within, and is generally open three days in the week, and when full, will draw about 150l. a night; ſo that

the manager generally finds himſelf well rewarded when he can procure good actors.

Entertainments of the dramatic kind came very early into faſhion in this country. They were at firſt only repreſentations of religious ſubjects, and peculiarly deſigned to advance the intereſts of religion; the clergy being the compoſers, and Sunday the principal time of exhibition. In the 16th century, the number of play-houſes was ſo great, that it was complained of as a nuiſance, not only in Edinburgh, but throughout the kingdom. They ſoon degenerated from their original inſtitution; and the plays, inſtead of being calculated to inſpire devotion, became filled with all manner of buffoonry and indecency. After the Reformation, the Preſbyterian clergy complained of theſe indecencies; and being actuated by a ſpirit of violent zeal, anathematized every kind of theatrical repreſentation whatever. King James VI. compelled them to paſs from their cenſures againſt the ſtage; but in the time of Charles I. when fanaticiſm was carried to the utmoſt length at which perhaps it was poſſible for it to arrive, it cannot be ſuppoſed that ſtage plays would be tolerated. It ſeems, however, that amuſements of this kind were again introduced at Edinburgh, about the year 1634, when the Duke of York kept his court there. His reſidence at Edinburgh drew off one half of the London company, and plays were acted in Edinburgh for ſome little time. The misfortunes attending the Duke York, however, and the eſtabliſhment of the Preſbyterian religion, (the genius of which is unfavourable to amuſements of this kind), ſoon

ſoon put a ſtop to the progreſs of the ſtage, and no theatrical exhibition was heard of in Edinburgh, till after the year 1715. The firſt adventurer was Signora Violante, an Italian, remarkable for feats of ſtrength, tumbling, &c. In this way ſhe firſt exhibited in a houſe at the foot of Carruber's Cloſe, which has ſince been employed by different ſectaries for religious purpoſes. Meeting with good ſucceſs, ſhe ſoon invited a company of comedians from London; and theſe being alſo well received, Edinburgh continued for ſome years to be entertained with the performances of a ſtrolling company, who viſited it annually. Becoming at laſt, however, obnoxious to the clergy, they were, in 1727, prohibited by the magiſtrates from acting within their juriſdiction. But this interdict was ſuſpended by the Court of Seſſion, and the players continued to perform as uſual.

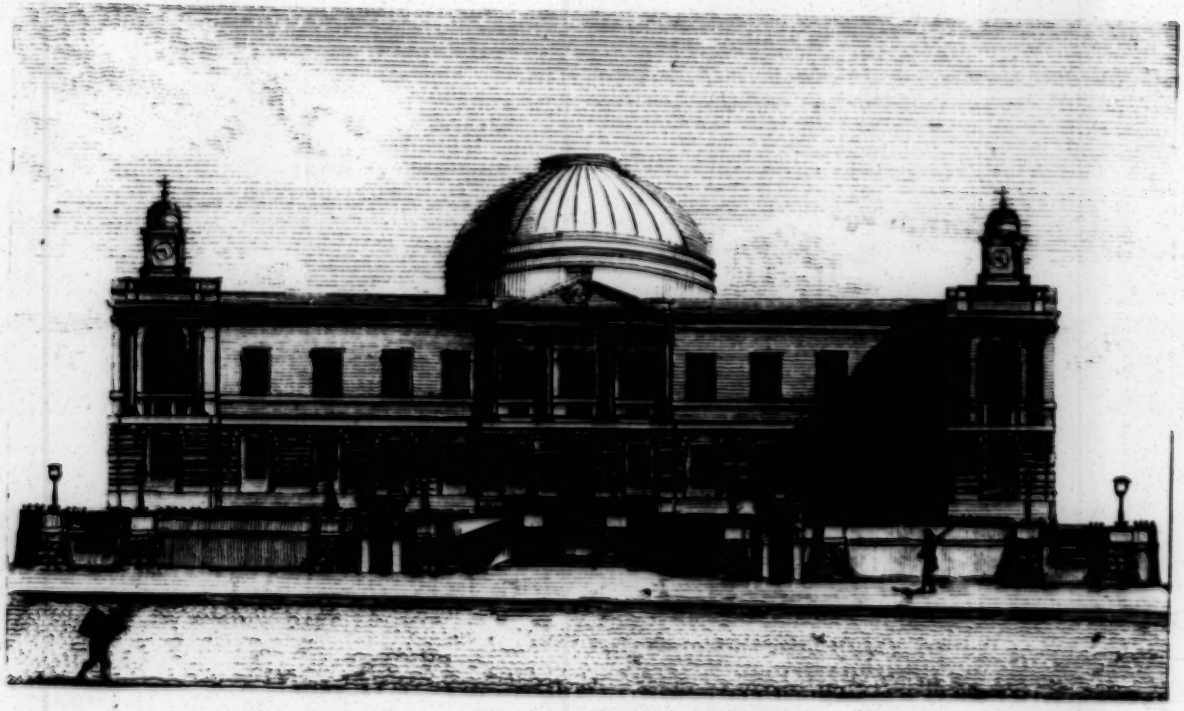
Still, however, theatrical entertainments were but rare. The town was viſited by itinerant companies only once in two or three years. They performed in the Taylors Hall in the Cowgate; which, when the houſe was full, would have drawn (at the rate of 2s. 6d. for pit and boxes, and 1s. 6d. for the gallery) 40l. or 45l. a night. About this time an act of parliament was paſſed, prohibiting the exhibition of plays, except in a houſe licenſed by the king. Of this the preſbytery of Edinburgh immediately laid hold; and at their own expence brought an action on the ſtatute againſt the players. The cauſe was by the Court of Seſſion decided againſt the players; who thereupon applied to parliament for a bill, to enable his majeſty to licenſe a theatre in Edinburgh.

Againſt

Againſt this bill petitions were preſented in 1739 to the houſe of commons, by the magiſtrates and town-council, the principal and profeſſors of the univerſity, and the dean of guild and his council; in conſequence of which, the affair was dropped. All this oppoſition, however, contributed in reality to the ſucceſs of the players; for the ſpirit of party being excited, a way of evading the act was eaſily found out, and the houſe was frequented more than uſual, inſomuch that the Taylors Hall was found inſufficient to contain the number of ſpectators.

The comedians now fell out among themſelves, and a new playhouſe was erected in the Canongate, in the year 1746. The conſequence of this was, that the old one in the Taylors Hall became entirely deſerted; and, through bad conduct, the managers of the new theatre ſoon found themſelves greatly involved. At laſt, a riot enſuing through diſſenſions among the performers, the playhouſe was totally demoliſhed. When the extenſion of the royalty over the ſpot where the New Town is built was obtained, a clauſe was likewiſe added to the bill, enabling his Majeſty to licenſe a theatre in Edinburgh. This was obtained, and thus the oppoſition of the clergy for ever ſilenced. But, notwithſtanding this, the high price paid by the managers to the patentee, being no leſs than 500 guineas annually, prevented them effectually from decorating the houſe as they would otherwiſe have done, or even from always retaining good actors in their ſervice; by which means the ſucceſs of the Edinburgh theatre has not been ſo great as might have been expected.

THE



Front of the REGISTER OFFICE

The Amphipheatre.

This building is erected not far from the Theatre, on the road to Leith; and was opened in 1790, for equeſtrian exhibitions, pantomime entertainments, dancing, and tumbling. The circus is 60 feet diameter, and will hold about 1500 ſpectators. The Amphitheatre is alſo employed as a riding-ſchool, where ladies and gentlemen are taught equeſtrian exerciſes.

The Register Office.

This work was firſt ſuggeſted by the late Earl of Morton, lord-regiſter of Scotland, with a view to prevent the danger which attended the uſual method of keeping the public records. In former times, indeed, theſe ſuffered from a variety of accidents. Edward I. carried off or deſtroyed moſt of them, in order to prevent any marks of the former independency of the nation from remaining to poſterity. Afterwards Cromwell ſpoiled this nation of its records, moſt of which were ſent to the tower of London. At the time of the Reſtoration, many of them were ſent down again by ſea; but one of the veſſels was ſhipwrecked, and the records brought by the other have ever ſince been left in the greateſt confuſion. The Earl of Morton taking this into conſideration, obtained from his Majeſty a grant of 12,000 l. out of the forfeited eſtates, for the purpoſe of building a regiſter-office, or houſe for keeping

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ing the records, and diſpoſing them in proper order. The foundation was laid on the 27th of June 1774, by Lord Frederic Campbell, Lord-Regiſter, Mr Montgomery of Stanhope, Lord Advocate, and Mr Miller of Barſkimming, Lord Juſtice-clerk; three of the truſtees appointed by his Majeſty for executing the work. The ceremony was performed under a diſcharge of artillery, in preſence of the judges of the courts of ſeſſion and exchequer, and in the ſight of a multitude of ſpectators. A braſs plate was put into the foundation-ſtone with the following inſcription: CONSERVANDIS TABULIS PUBLICIS POSITUM EST, ANNO M,DCC,LXXIV, MUNIFICENTIA OPTIMI ET PIETISSIMI PRINCIPIS GEORGII TERTII. In a glaſs vaſe hermetically ſealed, which is alſo placed in the foundation-ſtone, are depoſited ſpecimens of the different coins of his preſent Majeſty.

The front of the building directly faces the bridge, extends from eaſt to weſt 200 feet, and is 40 feet back from the line of Prince's-ſtreet. In the middle of the front is a ſmall projection of three windows in breadth. Here is a pediment, having in its centre the arms of Great Britain, and the whole is ſupported by four Corinthian pilaſtres. At each end is a tower projecting beyond the reſt of the building, having a Venetian window in front, and a cupola on the top. The front is ornamented from end to end with a beautiful Corinthian entablature. In the centre of the building is a dome of wooden work covered with lead. The inſide forms a ſaloon 50 feet diameter and 80 high, lighted at top by a copper window 15 feet in diameter. Round the whole

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is a hanging gallery of ſtone, with an iron balluſtrade, which affords conveniency for preſſes in the walls for keeping the records. The whole number of apartments is 97; all of which are vaulted beneath, and warmed with fire-places. This building, which is the moſt beautiful of Mr Adams's deſigns, has been executed in a ſubſtantial manner, in about 16 years, at the expence of near 40,000 l. and is one of the principal ornaments of the city. A ſerjeant's guard is placed here from the caſtle, for the further protection of the records. It is intended to place a ſtatue of his preſent Majeſty in the front of the building, with the lion and unicorn above the centinels boxes. The lord-regiſter has the direction of the whole, and the principal clerks of Seſſion are his deputes. Theſe have a great number of clerks under them, for carrying on the buſineſs of the Court of Seſſion. The Lord-regiſter is a miniſter of ſtate in this country. He formerly collected the votes of the parliament of Scotland, and ſtill collects thoſe of the peers at the election of 16 to repreſent them in parliament.

THE SOUTH BRIDGE.

THE *South Bridge* is directly oppoſite to the other, ſo as to make but one ſtreet, croſſing that called the *High-ſtreet* at right angles. It conſiſts of 19 arches of different ſizes: but only one of them is viſible, *viz.* the large one over the Cowgate; and even this is ſmall, in compariſon with thoſe of the North

North Bridge, being no more than 30 feet wide and 31 feet high. On the ſouth it terminates at the Univerſity on one hand, and the Royal Infirmary on the other. The *Tron Church*, properly called *Chriſt Church*, ſtands at the northern extremity, facing the High-ſtreet, and in the middle of what is now called *Hunter's Square*, in memory of the late worthy chief magiſtrate who planned theſe improvements, but did not live to ſee them executed. On the weſt ſide of this ſquare the Merchant Company have built a very handſome hall for the occaſional meetings of their members. This bridge was erected with a deſign to give an eaſy acceſs to the great number of ſtreets and ſquares on the ſouth ſide, as well as to the country on that quarter from whence the city is ſupplied with coals. The ſtreet on the top is ſuppoſed to be as regular as any in Europe; every houſe being of the ſame dimenſions, excepting that between every two of the ordinary conſtruction there is one with a pediment on the top, in order to prevent that ſameneſs of appearance which would otherwiſe take place. So great was the rage for purchaſing ground on each ſide of this bridge for building, that the areas ſold by public auction at 50 l. *per* foot in front. By this the community will undoubtedly be conſiderable gainers; and the proprietors hope to indemnify themſelves for their extraordinary expence by the vaſt ſale of goods ſuppoſed to attend the ſhops in that part of the town; though this ſeems ſomewhat more dubious than the former.

THE CONCERT HALL.

THE *Concert Hall*, called alſo *St Cecilia's Hall*, ſtands in Niddery's Street; and was built in 1762, after the model of the great opera-theatre in Parma. The plan was drawn by Sir Robert Mylne, architect of Blackfriars bridge. The muſical room is of an oval form, the ceiling being a concave elliptical dome, lighted from the top by a lanthorn. The ſeats are ranged in the form of an amphitheatre; and are capable of containing 500 perſons, beſides leaving a large area in the middle of the room. The orcheſtra is at the upper end, and is terminated by an elegant organ.

The muſical ſociety was firſt inſtituted in the year 1728. Before that time, ſeveral gentlemen had formed a weekly club at a tavern kept by one Steil, a great lover of muſic, and a good ſinger of Scots ſongs. Here the common entertainment conſiſted in playing on the harpſichord and violin the concertos and ſonatos of Handel, juſt then publiſhed. The meeting, however, ſoon becoming numerous, they inſtituted, in the year above mentioned, a ſociety of 70 members, for the purpoſe of holding a weekly concert. The affairs of the ſociety are regulated by a governor, deputy governor, treaſurer, and five directors, who are annually choſen by the members. The meetings have been continued ever ſince that time on much the ſame footing as at firſt, and the number of members is now increaſed to 200. The weekly concerts are on Friday; the tickets being gi-

ven *gratis* by the directors, and attention paid in the firſt place to ſtrangers. Oratorios are occaſionally performed throughout the year; and the principal performers have alſo benefit-concerts. The band are excellent in their ſeveral departments; and ſeveral of the members are alſo good performers, and take their part in the orcheſtra. There are always many applications on the occaſion of a vacancy by the death of any of the members or otherwiſe, and ſuch is generally the number of candidates, that it is no eaſy matter to get in.

The University.

In the year 1581, a grant was obtained from King James VI. for founding a college or univerſity within the city of Edinburgh; and the citizens, aided by various donations from well diſpoſed perſons, purchaſed a ſituation for the intended new college, conſiſting of part of the areas, chambers, and church of the collegiate provoſtry and prebends of the Kirk-a-field, otherwiſe called *Templum et Præfectura Sanctæ Mariæ in campis*, lying on the ſouth ſide of the city. Next year, a charter of confirmation and erection was obtained alſo from King James VI. from which the college to be built did afterwards derive all the privileges of an univerſity.

In 1583, the provoſt, magiſtrates, and council, the patrons of this new inſtitution, prepared the place in the beſt manner they could for the reception of teachers and ſtudents; and in the month of Octo-

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ber the ſame year, Robert Rollock, whom they had invited from a profeſſorſhip in St Salvator's College in the univerſity of St Andrew's, began to teach in the new college of Edinburgh. Other profeſſors were ſoon after elected; and in the year 1586, Rollock was appointed principal of the college, and the following year alſo profeſſor of divinity, immediately after he had conferred the degree of M. A. on the ſtudents who had been under his tuition for four years. The offices of principal and profeſſor of divinity remained united till the year 1620.

In the 1617, King James VI. having viſited Scotland after his acceſſion to the crown of England, commanded the principal and regents of the college of Edinburgh to attend him in Stirling caſtle; and after they had there held a ſolemn philoſophical diſputation in the royal preſence, his Majeſty was ſo much ſatisfied with their appearance, that he deſired their college for the future might be called *The College of King James*, which name it ſtill bears in all its diplomas or public deeds.

For ſeveral years the college conſiſted only of a principal, who was alſo profeſſor of divinity, with four regents or profeſſors of philoſophy. Each of theſe regents inſtructed one claſs of ſtudents for four years, in Latin, Greek, ſchool logic, mathematics, ethics, and phyſics, and graduated them at the concluſion of the fourth courſe. A profeſſor of humanity or Latin was afterwards appointed, who prepared the ſtudents for entering under the tuition of the regents; alſo a profeſſor of mathematics, and a profeſſor of Hebrew or Oriental languages. It was

not till about the year 1710 that the four regents began to be confined each to a particular profeſſion; ſince which time they have been commonly ſtyled *Profeſſors of Greek, Logic, Moral Philoſophy, and Natural Philoſophy.* The firſt medical profeſſors inſtituted at Edinburgh, were Sir Robert Sibbald and Doctor Archibald Pitcairn, in the year 1685. Theſe, however, were only titular profeſſors; and for 30 years afterwards, a ſummer-lecture on the officinal plants, and the diſſection of a human body once in two or three years, completed the whole courſe of medical education at Edinburgh. In 1720, an attempt was made to teach the different branches of phyſic regularly; which ſucceeded ſo well, that, ever ſince, the reputation of the univerſity as a ſchool for medicine hath been conſtantly increaſing, both in the iſland of Britain, and even among diſtant nations.

The college is endowed with a very fine library, founded in 1580 by Mr Clement Little, advocate, who bequeathed it to the town-council. They ordered a houſe to be built for it in the neighbourhood of St Giles's Church, where it was for ſome time kept under the care of the eldeſt miniſter of Edinburgh, but was afterwards removed to the college. This collection is enriched, as well as others of a ſimilar kind, by receiving a copy of every book entered in Stationers Hall, according to the ſtatute for the encouragement of authors. Beſides this, the only fund it has is the money paid by all the ſtudents at the univerſity, except thoſe of divinity, upon their being matriculated; and a ſum of 5 l. given by each profeſſor at his admiſſion. The amount of theſe

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ſums is uncertain, but has been eſtimated at about 150 l. annually. The ſtudents of divinity, who pay nothing to this library, have one belonging to their own particular department.

Here are ſhown two ſkulls, one almoſt as thin as paper, pretended to be that of the celebrated George Buchanan, and, by way of contraſt, another ſaid to have been that of an idiot, and which is exceſſively thick. Here alſo are preſerved the original proteſt againſt the council of Conſtance for burning John Huſs and Jerom of Prague in 1417; the original contract of Queen Mary with the Dauphin of France, and ſome valuable coins and medals. There are alſo ſeveral portraits; particularly of Robert Rollock the firſt Principal of the univerſity, King James VI. Lord Napier the inventor of logarithms, John Knox, Principal Carſtairs, Mr Thomſon the author of the Seaſons, &c. The muſeum contains a good collection of natural curioſities, the number of which is daily increaſing. The anatomical preparations are worth notice, as are alſo thoſe belonging to the profeſſor of midwifery.

The celebrity of this college has been greatly owing to the uniform attention of the magiſtracy in filling up the vacant chairs with men of known abilities in their reſpective departments. Greatly to their honour, too, they have been no leſs attentive to the inſtituting of new profeſſorſhips from time to time, as the public ſeemed to demand them.

There are about 50 burſars in this univerſity, and theſe do not exceed 12 l. *per annum* each.

The number of ſtudents during the laſt ſeſſion of the college, from October 10th 1789, to May 6th 1790, was nearly as follows:

Students of Divinity - -	130
——— Law - -	100
——— Phyſic - -	440
General Claſſes - - -	420
In all	1090

The old buildings being very mean, and unfit for the reception of ſo many profeſſors and ſtudents, and quite unſuitable to the dignity of ſuch a flouriſhing univerſity, as well as inconſiſtent with the improved ſtate of the city, the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council, ſet on foot a ſubſcription for erecting a new ſtructure, according to a deſign of Robert Adam, Eſq; architect. Part of the old fabric has in conſequence been pulled down, and the new building is already in conſiderable forwardneſs. The foundation ſtone was laid on Monday the 16th of November, with great ſolemnity, by the Right Hon. Francis Lord Napier, Grand Maſter Maſon of Scotland, in the preſence of the Right Hon. the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Town-Council of the city of Edinburgh, with the Principal, Profeſſors, and Students of the univerſity of Edinburgh, a number of Nobility and Gentry, and the Maſters, Officers, and Brethren, of all the lodges of free maſons in the city and neighbourhood, who marched in proceſſion from the Parliament-Houſe down the High-Street. After the different maſonic ceremonials were performed,

formed, two cryſtal-bottles, caſt on purpoſe at the glaſs-houſe of Leith, were depoſited in the foundation-ſtone. In one of theſe were put different coins of the preſent reign, each of them being previouſly enveloped in cryſtal, in ſuch an ingenious manner, that the legend on the coins could be diſtinctly read without breaking the cryſtal. In the other bottle were depoſited ſeven rolls of vellum, containing a ſhort account of the original foundation and preſent ſtate of the univerſity, together with ſeveral other papers; in particular the different newſpapers, containing advertiſements relative to the college, &c. and a liſt of the names of the Principal and Profeſſors, alſo of the preſent Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates, and Officers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The bottles being carefully ſealed up, were covered with a plate of copper wrapt in block tin; upon the under ſide of the copper were engraved the arms of the city of Edinburgh and the univerſity; likewiſe the arms of the Right Hon. Lord Napier, Grand Maſter Maſon of Scotland.

The eaſt and weſt fronts of this pile are to extend 255 feet, and the ſouth and north 358. There are to be houſes for the Principal, and ſix or ſeven of the Profeſſors. The library is to be a room of 160 feet in length; the muſeum for natural curioſities is to be of the ſame extent; and the dimenſions of the hall for degrees and public exercises are about 90 feet by 30. There are likewiſe to be an elegant and moſt convenient anatomical theatre; a chemical laboratory; and large rooms for inſtruments and experiments for the Profeſſors of mathematics, natural

tural philoſophy, and agriculture. The whole when finiſhed, if not the moſt ſplendid ſtructure of the ſort in Europe, will however be the completeſt and moſt commodious; and it will do the utmoſt honour to the genius of the architect, and to the munificence of the public. About L. 16,000 is already ſubſcribed; and there is no doubt that the aid of parliament will be granted to complete the work.

The Botanical Garden belonging to the univerſity, is ſituated at the diſtance of about a mile, on the road between Edinburgh and Leith. It conſiſts of about five acres of ground; and is furniſhed with a great variety of plants, many of them brought from the moſt diſtant quarters of the globe. The Profeſſor is botaniſt to the King, and receives a ſalary of 120l. annually for the ſupport of the garden. A monument, to the memory of the celebrated botaniſt Linnæus, was erected here by the late Dr Hope, who firſt planned the garden, and brought it to perfection.

The univerſity of Edinburgh, like the others in this kingdom, ſends one member to the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland; and the widows of the Profeſſors have a right to the funds of thoſe of Miniſters, the Profeſſors being truſtees on that fund along with the Preſbytery of Edinburgh.

The Public Dispensary.

The *Public Diſpenſary* was founded by Dr Duncan in 1776, for the poor whoſe diſeaſes are of ſuch a nature

— ROYAL INFIRMARY —

nature as to render their admiſſion into the infirmary either unneceſſary or improper. Here the patients receive advice *gratis* four days in the week; a regiſter is kept of the diſeaſes of each, and of the effects produced by the medicines employed. All patients not improper for diſpenſary treatment, are admitted on the recommendation of the elder or church-warden of the pariſh where they reſide. The phyſicians officiate and give lectures *gratis*; ſo that the apothecary who lodges in the houſe, and the medicines, are the only expences attending this uſeful inſtitution. The expence of the whole is defrayed by public contributions, and from a ſmall annual fee paid by the ſtudents who attend the lectures. It is under the direction of a preſident, two vice-preſidents, and 20 directors, elected annually from among the contributors. One guinea intitles a contributor to recommend patients, and be a governor for two years, and five guineas gives the ſame privilege for life.

The Royal Infirmary.

The *Royal Infirmary* was firſt thought of by the college of phyſicians in 1725. A fiſhing company happening to be diſſolved at that time, the partners contributed ſome of their ſtock towards the eſtabliſhment of the Infirmary. A ſubſcription was alſo ſet on foot, and application made to the General Aſſembly to recommend the ſame throughout their juriſdiction. This was readily complied with, and the

the Aſſembly paſſed an act for that purpoſe; but very little regard was paid to it by the clergy. Notwithſtanding this, however, 2000l. being procured, a ſmall houſe was opened for the reception of the ſick poor in Auguſt 1729. In 1736, the contributors towards the Infirmary were erected into a body corporate by royal ſtatute; and after this the contributions increaſed very conſiderably: by which means the managers were enabled to enlarge their ſcheme from time to time; and at laſt to undertake the preſent magnificent ſtructure, the foundation of which was laid in 1738. During 25 years, when this inſtitution was in its infancy, Lord Hopetoun beſtowed upon it an annuity of 400l. In 1750, Doctor Archibald Ker bequeathed to this incorporation 200l. a-year in the iſland of Jamaica. In 1755, the Lords of the Treaſury made a donation to it of 8000l. which had been appointed for the ſupport of invalids. In return for this, the Managers of the Infirmary conſtantly keep 60 beds in readineſs for the reception of ſick ſoldiers. This year alſo ſick ſervants began to be admitted into the Infirmary, and a ward was fitted up for their reception.

This inſtitution, however, was more indebted to George Drummond, Eſq; than to any other perſon. He was ſeven times choſen Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh; and always directed his attention to the improvement of the city, particularly to that of the Royal Infirmary. So ſenſible were the Managers of their obligations to him, that, in their hall, they erected a buſt of him with this inſcription, "George "Drummond, to whom this country is indebted for all

"all the benefit which it derives from the Royal "Infirmary."—In 1748, the ſtock of the Infirmary amounted to 5000l.; in 1755, to 7076l., beſides the eſtate left by Doctor Ker; in 1764, to 23,426l.; and in 1778, to 27,074l.

The Royal Infirmary is attended by two phyſicians choſen by the managers, who viſit their patients daily in preſence of the ſtudents. All the members of the college of ſurgeons are alſo obliged to attend in rotation, according to ſeniority. If any ſurgeon declines attendance, he is not allowed to appoint a depute; but the patients are committed to the care of one of four aſſiſtant ſurgeons, choſen annually by the managers. From the years 1762 to 1769, there were admitted 6261 patients; which number added to 109 who were in the hoſpital at the commencement of the year 1762, made, in all, 6370. Of theſe, 4395 were cured; 358 died; the reſt were either relieved, diſmiſſed incurable, for irregularities, or by their own deſire, or remained in the hoſpital. From 1770 to 1775, the patients annually admitted into the Infirmary were, at an average, 1567; of whom 63 died. In 1776, there were admitted 1668, of whom 57 died; and in 1777, the number admitted was 1593, and of deaths 52. In the year 1786, there were admitted 1822 patients: of theſe 1354 were cured; 166 relieved; 84 died; the reſt were either relieved, diſmiſſed incurable, for irregularities, or by their own deſire.

The building conſiſts of a body and two wings, each of them three ſtories high, with an attic ſtory and garrets, and a very elegant front. The body is

210 feet long, and 36 broad in the middle, but at the ends only 24 feet broad. There is a buſt of King George II. in a Roman dreſs, above the great door. The wings are 70 feet long, and 24 broad. In the centre is a large ſtair-caſe, ſo wide that ſedan chairs may be carried up. In the different wards, 228 patients may be accommodated, each in a different bed. There are cold and hot baths for the patients, and alſo for the citizens; and to theſe laſt the patients are never admitted.

Beſides the apartments neceſſary for the ſick, there are others for the officers and ſervants belonging to the houſe. There are likewiſe rooms for the managers, a conſulting room for the phyſicians and ſurgeons, a waiting room for the ſtudents, and a theatre that will hold upwards of 200 people for performing chirurgical operations. There is a military ward, ſupported by the intereſt of 8000l. already mentioned; and in conſequence of which a ſmall guard is always kept at the Infirmary. The wards for ſick ſervants are ſupported by collections at the church doors. Beſides the attendance of the royal college of ſurgeons by rotation, as has already been mentioned, there are two phyſicians belonging to the houſe, who are elected by the managers, and have a ſmall ſalary; there is likewiſe a houſe-ſurgeon and apothecary. Students who attend the Infirmary pay 3l. 3s. annually, which brings in a revenue of about 500l. towards defraying the expence of the houſe. Two wards are ſet apart for the patients whoſe caſes are ſuppoſed to be moſt intereſting; and the phyſicians give lectures upon them.

THE

The High School.

The earlieſt inſtitution of a grammar-ſchool in Edinburgh ſeems to have been about the year 1519. The whole expence beſtowed upon the firſt building of this kind amounted only to about 40l. Sterling. Another building, which had been erected for the accommodation of the ſcholars in 1578, continued, notwithſtanding the great increaſe of their number, to be uſed for that purpoſe till 1777. The foundation of the preſent new building was laid on the 24th of June that year by Sir William Forbes, Grand Maſter of the Free Maſons. The total length of this building is 120 feet from ſouth to north; the breadth in the middle 36, at each end 38 feet. The great hall where the boys meet for prayers, is 68 feet by 30. At each end of the hall is a room of 32 feet by 20, intended for libraries. The building is two ſtories high, the one 18, the other 17 feet in height. The expence of the whole, when finiſhed, is reckoned at 4000l.

There is a rector and four maſters, who teach from 400 to 500 ſcholars annually. The ſalaries are trifling, and the fees depend upon the reputation they have obtained for teaching; and as this has been for ſome years very conſiderable, the rector's place is ſuppoſed to be worth not leſs than 400l. *per annum*, a maſter's about half that ſum. There is a janitor, whoſe place is ſuppoſed to be worth about 70l. a-year His buſineſs is to take care of the boys on the play-ground; and there is a woman who

lives on the ſpot as under janitor, whoſe place may be worth about 25l. annually. There is a library, but not large, as each of the boys pays only one ſhilling annually to its ſupport.

There are four eſtabliſhed Engliſh ſchools in Edinburgh; the maſters of which receive a ſmall ſalary, upon expreſs condition, that they ſhall not take above five ſhillings *per* quarter from any of their ſcholars. There are likewiſe many other private ſchools in Edinburgh for all languages; and, in general, every kind of education is to be had here in great perfection, and at a very cheap rate.

THE MINT.

THE *Mint* is kept up by the articles of union, with all the offices belonging to it, though no money is ever ſtruck here. It ſtands in the Cowgate, a little to the weſt of the Engliſh church; but is in a ruinous ſtate, though ſtill inhabited by the different officers, who have free houſes; and the bellman enjoys his ſalary by regularly ringing the bell. This place, as well as the Abbey of Holyrood-houſe, is an aſylum for debtors.

THE ENGLISH CHAPEL.

THE *Engliſh Chapel* ſtands near the Cowgate port, and was founded on the 3d of April 1771. The foundation-ſtone was laid by General Oughton, with the

the following inſcription: *Edifici ſacr. Eccleſiæ epiſc. Angliæ, primum poſuit lapidem J. Adolphus Oughton, in architectonicæ Scotiæ repub. curio maximus, militum præfectus, regnante Georgio III. tertio Apr. die, A. D.* MDCCLXXI. It is a plain handſome building, neatly fitted up in the inſide, and ſomewhat reſembling the church of St Martin's in the Fields, London. It is 90 feet long, 75 broad, and ornamented with an elegant ſpire of conſiderable height. It is alſo furniſhed with an excellent bell, formerly belonging to the chapel royal at Holyrood-houſe, which is permitted to be rung for aſſembling the congregation; an indulgence not granted to the Preſbyterians in England. The expence of the building was defrayed by voluntary ſubſcription; and, to the honour of the country, people of all perſuaſions contributed to this pious work. It has already coſt 7000l. and will require 1000l. more to finiſh the portico. This church is built in a ſingular manner, viz. from ſouth to north, and the altar-piece ſtands on the eaſt ſide. Three clergymen officiate here, of whom the firſt has 150l. the other two 100l. each. The altar-piece is finely decorated, and there is a good organ.

There is another Epiſcopal chapel, but ſmall, in Blackfriars Wynd, which was founded by Baron Smith, in the year 1722. There are alſo ſome meetings of the Epiſcopal church of Scotland, who adhere to their old forms, having ſtill their biſhops and inferior clergy For ſome time theſe were ſubjected to penal laws, as they refuſed to take the oath to Government, or mention the preſent Royal Family in their public prayers: but of late they have con-

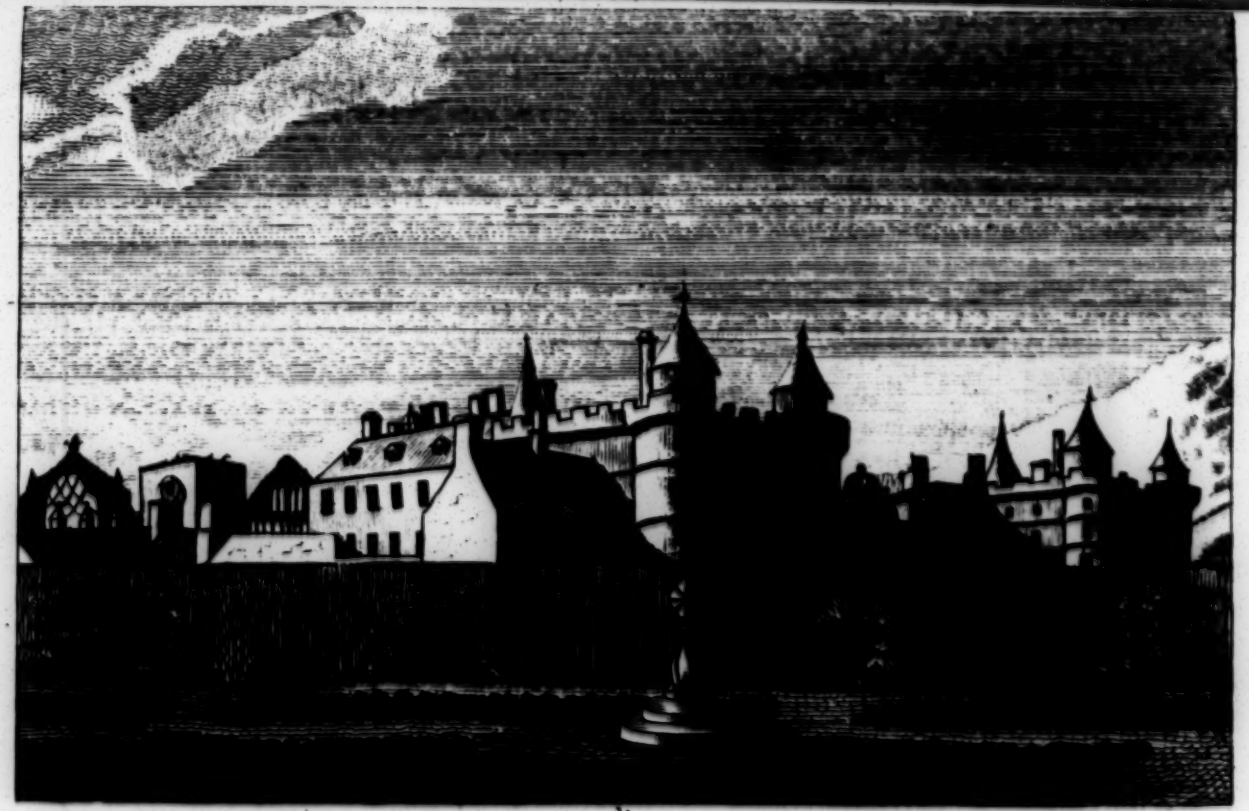
formed, and had their conduct approved of by his Majesty; so that now every denomination of Christians in Britain pray for the Royal Family on the throne.

The Canongate Church.

Agreeable to a royal mandate, issued by James VII. in consequence of an application made by the inhabitants of the Canongate, the magistrates of Edinburgh bought a piece of ground for a church and church-yard, and began to build a church A. D. 1688. This building is of the figure of the cross. The front of it is decently ornamented, and, on its top, are the head and horns of a deer, with a cross erect, over the top of the forehead, between the horns, emblematical of the ridiculous legend which is told of King David I. founder of the abbey of Holyroodhouse. The expence of this building was about 2400l. Sterling. There are two ministers to this church; the King is patron of the first, and the trades and proprietors of houses in the Canongate, of the second.

The Palace of Holyrood-house.

This Palace, though much neglected, is the only royal habitation in Scotland, that is not entirely in ruins. It is a handsome square of 230 feet in the inside, surrounded with piazzas. The front, facing the



Palace of *Holyroodhouse, from the* North west.

the weſt, conſiſts of two double towers joined by a beautiful low building, adorned with a double baluſtrade above. The gateway in the middle is decorated with double ſtone columns, ſupporting a cupola in the middle, repreſenting an imperial crown, with a clock underneath. On the right hand is the great ſtair-caſe, which leads to the council chamber and the royal apartments. Theſe are large and ſpacious, but unfurniſhed: in one of them the Scots Peers meet to elect 16 of their number to repreſent them in Parliament. The gallery is on the left hand, and meaſures 150 feet by 27 and a half. It is adorned with the ſuppoſed portraits of all the Kings of Scotland. In the apartments of the Duke of Hamilton, which he poſſeſſes as hereditary keeper of the palace, Queen Mary's bed of crimſon damaſk, bordered with green fringes and taſſels, is ſtill to be ſeen, but almoſt reduced to rags. Here alſo ſtrangers are ſhown a piece of wainſcot hung upon hinges, which opens to a trap-ſtair communicating with the apartments below. Through this paſſage, Darnley and the other conſpirators ruſhed in to murder the unhappy Rizzio. Towards the outward door of theſe apartments are large duſky ſpots on the floor, ſaid to be occaſioned by Rizzio's blood, which could never be waſhed out. In the lodgings aſſigned to Lord Dunmore is a picture by Van Dyke, eſteemed a maſterly performance, of King Charles I. and his Queen going a-hunting. There are likewiſe the portraits of their preſent Majeſties at full length by Ramſay. The lodgings above the royal apart-

ments are occupied by the Duke of Argyle as heritable maſter of the houſehold.

The front of this palace is two ſtories high; the roof flat; but at each end the front projects, and is ornamented with circular towers at the angles. Here the building is much higher, and the reſt of the palace is three ſtories in height. The north-weſt towers were built by James V. for his own reſidence: his name is ſtill to be ſeen below a nitch in one of theſe towers. During the minority of Queen Mary, this palace was burned by the Engliſh; but ſoon after repaired and enlarged beyond its preſent ſize. At that time it conſiſted of five courts, the moſt weſterly of which was the largeſt, It was bounded on the eaſt by the front of the palace, which occupied the ſame ſpace it does at preſent; but the building itſelf extended further to the ſouth. At the north-weſt corner was a ſtrong gate, with Gothic pillars, arches, and towers, part of which was not long ago pulled down. Great part of the palace was burnt by Cromwell's ſoldiers; but it was repaired and altered into the preſent form after the Reſtoration. The fabric was planned by Sir William Bruce a celebrated architect, and executed by Robert Mylne maſon. The environs of the palace afford an aſylum for inſolvent debtors; and adjoining to it is an extenſive park, all of which is a ſanctuary.

The Abbey church was formerly called the *Monaſtery of Holyrood-houſe*, and built by King David I. in 1128. He gave it the name of *Holyrood-houſe*, in memory, as is ſaid, of his deliverance from an enraged

enraged hart, by the miraculous interpoſition of a croſs from heaven. This monaſtery he gave to the canons regular of St Auguſtine: on whom he had beſtowed the church of Edinburgh caſtle, with thoſe of St Cuthbert's, Corſtorphin, and Libberton, in the ſhire of Mid-Lothian, and of Airth in Stirling-ſhire: the priories of St Mary's iſle in Galloway, of Blantyre in Clydeſdale, of Rowadill in Roſs, and three others in the Weſtern Iſles. To them he alſo granted the privilege of erecting a borough between the town of Edinburgh and the church of Holyrood-houſe. From theſe canons it had the name of the *Canongate*, which it ſtill retains. In this new borough they had a right to hold markets. They had alſo portions of land in different parts, with a moſt extenſive juriſdiction, and right of trial by duel, and fire and water ordeal. They had alſo certain revenues payable out of the exchequer and other funds, with fiſhings, and the privilege of erecting mills on the water of Leith, which ſtill retain the name of *Canon-mills*. Other grants and privileges were beſtowed by ſucceeding ſovereigns; ſo that it was deemed the richeſt religious foundation in Scotland. At the Reformation, its annual revenues were, 442 bolls of wheat, 640 bolls of bear, 560 bolls of oats, 500 capons, two dozen of hens, as many ſalmon, 12 loads of ſalt; beſides a great number of ſwine, and about 250l. Sterling in money. At the Reformation, the ſuperiority of North Leith, part of Pleaſance, the barony of Broughton, and the Canongate, were veſted in the Earl of Roxburgh; and were purchaſed from him by

by the Town-Council of Edinburgh in 1636. In 1544, the church ſuffered conſiderably by the invaſion of the Engliſh; but was ſpeedily repaired. At the Reſtoration, King Charles II. ordered the church to be ſet apart as a chapel-royal, and prohibited its uſe as a common pariſh church for the future. It was then fitted up in a very elegant manner. A throne was erected for the Sovereign, and 12 ſtalls for the Knights of the Order of the Thiſtle; but as maſs had been celebrated in it in the reign of James VII. and it had an organ, with a ſpire, and a fine chime of bells on the weſt ſide, the Preſbyterians at the Revolution entirely deſtroyed its ornaments, and left nothing but the bare walls.—Through time, the roof of the church became ruinous; on which the Duke of Hamilton repreſented its condition to the Barons of Exchequer, and craved that it might be repaired. This requeſt was complied with: but the architect and maſon who were employed, covered the roof with thick flag ſtones, which ſoon impaired the fabric; and on the 2d of December 1768, the roof fell in. Since that time, no attempt has been made to repair it, and it is now entirely fallen to ruin.

The ruins of this church, however, are ſtill ſufficient to diſcover the excellency of the workmanſhip. Here ſome of the Kings of Scotland are interred; and an odd kind of curioſity has been the occaſion of expoſing ſome bones, ſaid to be thoſe of Lord Darnley, and a Counteſs of Roxburgh, who died ſeveral hundred years ago. Thoſe ſaid to belong to the former were very large, and the latter had ſome fleſh dried

upon

upon them. The chapel was fitted up in the elegant manner above mentioned, by James VII.; but ſuch was the enthuſiaſm of the mob, that they not only deſtroyed the ornaments, but tore up even the pavement, which was of marble.

The Observatory.

The *Obſervatory* is built on the top of the *Calton-Hill*. The ſcheme for erecting it was firſt adopted in the year 1736; but the diſturbances occaſioned by the Porteous mob prevented any thing from being done towards the execution of it at that time. The Earl of Morton afterwards gave 100 l. for the purpoſe of building an obſervatory, and appointed Mr M'Laurin profeſſor of mathematics, together with the principal and ſome profeſſors of the univerſity, truſtees for managing the ſum. Mr M'Laurin added to the money above mentioned the profits ariſing from a courſe of lectures which he read on experimental philoſophy; which, with ſome other ſmall ſums, amounted in all to 300 l.: but Mr M'Laurin dying, the deſign was dropped.—Afterwards the money was put into the hands of two perſons who became bankrupt; but a conſiderable dividend being obtained out of their effects, the principal and intereſt, about the year 1776, amounted to 400 l. A plan of the building was made out by Mr Craig architect; and the foundation-ſtone was laid by Mr Stodart, Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, on the 25th of Auguſt 1776. About this time, however, Mr Adam archi-

architect happening to come to Edinburgh, conceived the idea of giving the whole the appearance of a fortification, for which its ſituation on the top of the Calton-hill was very much adapted. Accordingly a line was marked out for incloſing the limits of the obſervatory with a wall conſtructed with buttreſſes and embraſures, and having Gothic towers at the angles. Thus the money deſigned for the work was totally exhauſted, and the obſervatory ſtill remains unfiniſhed; nor is there any appearance of its being ſoon completed either by voluntary ſubſcription or any other way.

Around this hill there is a pleaſant walk, which affords a view of the fineſt proſpects that can be imagined, varying remarkably almoſt at every ſtep. On this hill too, is a burying-ground, which contains a fine monument to the memory of David Hume the hiſtorian.

General Excise-Office.

On the eaſt ſide of St Andrew's Square, ſtands the *General Exciſe-Office*, built by the late Sir Laurence Dundas for his own reſidence, but ſold by his ſon for the above purpoſe. It is a very handſome building, with a pediment in front ornamented with the King's arms, and ſupported by four Corinthian pilaſtres; and, in conjunction with the two corner houſes, has a fine effect.

St Andrew's Church.

This Edifice ſtands on the north ſide of George's Street. It is of an oval form; and has a very neat ſpire of 186 feet in height, with a chime of eight bells; the firſt and only one of the kind in Scotland. It has alſo a handſome portico in front.

The Physician's Hall.

Opposite to St Andrew's church is the *Phyſician's Hall*, deſigned for the meetings of the Faculty, and which has a portico reſembling that of the church.

Assembly Rooms.

Farther to the weſtward, on the ſouth ſide, ſtand the *Aſſembly Rooms*, which, though a heavy looking building on the outſide, are nevertheleſs extremely elegant and commodious within. The largeſt is 100 feet long and 40 broad, being exceeded in its dimenſions by none in the iſland, the large one at Bath excepted. Weekly aſſemblies are held here for dancing, and card-playing, under the direction of a maſter of ceremonies; admiſſion-tickets five ſhillings each.

Heriot's

HERIOT'S HOSPITAL.

HERIOT'S HOSPITAL owes its foundation to George Heriot, goldſmith to James VI. who acquired by his buſineſs a large fortune. At his death, he left the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh 23,625l. 10s. "for the maintenance, relief, and bringing up of "ſo many poor and fatherleſs boys, freemens ſons "of the town of Edinburgh," as the above ſum ſhould be ſufficient for. This hoſpital is finely ſituated on the weſt end of the ſouth ridge, almoſt oppoſite to the caſtle, and is the moſt magnificent building of the kind in Edinburgh. It was founded in July 1628, according to a plan (as is reported) of Inigo Jones; but the work being interrupted by the civil wars, it was not finiſhed till the year 1650. The expence of the building is ſaid to have been upwards of 30,000l.; (money, it is to be obſerved, then bore 10l. *per cent.* intereſt): and the hoſpital is now poſſeſſed of an income of about 3000l. a-year; though this cannot be abſolutely aſcertained, as the rents are paid in grain, and of courſe muſt be fluctuating.

It ſtands on a riſing ground to the ſouth-weſt of the city, and is a ſquare of 162 feet without, having a court 94 feet ſquare in the inſide, with piazzas on two of the ſides. There is a ſpire with a clock over the gateway, and each corner of the building is ornamented with turrets; but notwithſtanding the magnificent appearance of the outſide, the inner part is far from being convenient. There is a ſta-

tue

Front view of HERIOTS HOSPITAL

tue of the founder over the gateway, in the dreſs of the times, and a very good painting of him in the council-room, with a picture of the late treaſurer, Mr Carmichael. There is a chapel 61 feet long and 22 broad, which is now repairing in ſuch a manner as will make it worthy of notice. When Cromwell took poſſeſſion of Edinburgh after the battle of Dunbar, he quartered his ſick and wounded ſoldiers in this hoſpital. It was applied to the ſame purpoſe till the year 1658, when General Monk, at the requeſt of the governors, removed the ſoldiers; and on the 11th of April 1659, it was opened for the reception of boys, 30 of whom were admitted into it. The Auguſt after, they were increaſed to 40; and in 1661, to 52. In 1753 the number was raiſed to 130, and in 1763 to 140; but ſince that time it has decreaſed. In this hoſpital the boys are inſtructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, and a knowledge of the Latin tongue. With ſuch as chooſe to follow any kind of trade, an apprentice-fee of 30l. is given when they leave the hoſpital; and thoſe who chooſe an academical education, have an annuity of 10l. a-year beſtowed on them for four years. The whole is under the overſight of the treaſurer, who has under him a houſe-governor, houſe-keeper, and ſchool-maſters.

WATSON'S HOSPITAL.

WATSON'S HOSPITAL has its name from the founder George Watſon, who was at firſt clerk to Sir

William Dick, Provoſt of Edinburgh in 1676, then accountant of the Bank of Scotland; after that he became receiver of the city's impoſt on ale, treaſurer to the Merchants Maiden Hoſpital, and to the ſociety for propagating Chriſtian knowledge. Dying a bachelor in 1723, he left 12,000l. for the maintenance and education of the children and grand-children of decayed members of the merchant company of Edinburgh. The ſcheme, however, was not put in execution till the year 1738, when the ſum originally left had accumulated to 20,000l. The preſent building was then erected, in which about 60 boys are maintained and educated. It is much leſs magnificent than Heriot's Hoſpital, but the building is far from being deſpicable. It ſtands to the ſouthward of the city at a ſmall diſtance from Heriot's Hoſpital, and was erected at the expence of 5000l.: its preſent revenue is about 1700l. It is under the management of the maſter, aſſiſtants, and treaſurer of the Merchant Company, four old bailies, the old dean-of-guild, and the two miniſters of the Old Church. The boys are genteelly clothed and liberally educated. Such as chooſe an univerſity education are allowed 10l. *per annum* for five years: thoſe who go to trades have 20l. allowed them for their apprentice-fee; and at the age of 25 years, if they have behaved properly, and not contracted marriage without conſent of the governors, they receive a bounty of 50l. The boys are under the immediate inſpection of the treaſurer, ſchool-maſter, and houſe-keeper.

THE MERCHANTS MAIDEN HOSPITAL.

THE *Merchants Maiden Hoſpital* was eſtabliſhed by voluntary contribution about the end of the laſt century, for the maintenance of young girls, daughters of the merchants burgeſſes of Edinburgh. The governors were erected into a body corporate, by act of parliament, in 1707. The annual revenue amounts to 1350l. Seventy girls are maintained in it; who, upon leaving the houſe, receive 3l. 6s. 8d. excepting a few who are allowed 8l. 6s. 8d. out of the funds of the hoſpital. The profits ariſing from work done in the houſe are alſo divided among the girls, according to their induſtry.

THE TRADES MAIDEN HOSPITAL.

THE *Trades Maiden Hoſpital* was founded in the year 1704 by the incorporations of Edinburgh, for the maintenance of the daughters of decayed members, on a plan ſimilar to that of the Merchants Hoſpital. To this, as well as to the former, one Mrs Mary Erſkine, a widow gentlewoman, contributed ſo liberally, that ſhe was by the governors ſtyled *joint foundreſs* of the hoſpital. Fifty girls are maintained in the houſe, who pay of entry-money 1l. 13s. 4d.; and, when they leave it, receive a bounty of five pounds eleven ſhillings and a penny halfpenny. The revenues are eſtimated at 600l. a-year.

The Orphan Hospital.

The *Orphan Hoſpital* was planned in 1732 by Andrew Gairdner merchant, and other inhabitants. It was promoted by the ſociety for propagating Chriſtian knowledge, by other ſocieties, by voluntary ſubſcriptions, and a collection at the church-doors. In 1733, the managers hired a houſe, took in 30 orphans, maintained them, gave them inſtructions in reading and writing, and taught them the weaving buſineſs. In 1735, they were erected into a body corporate by the town of Edinburgh; and, in 1742, they obtained a charter of erection from his late Majeſty, appointing moſt of the great officers of ſtate in Scotland, and the heads of the different ſocieties in Edinburgh, members of this corporation; with powers to them to hold real property to the amount of 1000l. a-year. The revenue is inconſiderable; but the inſtitution is ſupported by the contributions of charitable perſons Into this hoſpital orphans are received from any part of the kingdom. None are admitted under ſeven, nor continued in it after 14 years of age. At preſent (1790) about 140 orphans are maintained in it.

The Orphan Hoſpital is ſituated to the eaſt of the North Bridge; and is a handſome building, conſiſting of a body and two wings, with a neat ſpire, furniſhed with a clock and two bells. The late worthy Mr Howard admits, that this inſtitution is one of the moſt uſeful charities in Europe, and is a pattern for all inſtitutions of the kind. The funds have been conſiderably

conſiderably increaſed, and the building greatly improved, through the attention and exertions of Mr Thomas Tod the preſent treaſurer.

The Trinity Hospital.

This was orginally founded and amply endowed by King James II.'s Queen. At the Reformation, it was ſtripped of its revenues; but the regent afterwards beſtowed them on the provoſt of Edinburgh, who gave them to the citizens for the uſe of the poor. In 1585, the town-council purchaſed from Robert Pont, at that time provoſt of Trinity College, his intereſt in theſe ſubjects; and the tranſaction was afterwards ratified by James VI. The hoſpital was then repaired, and appointed for the reception of poor old burgeſſes, their wives, and unmarried children, not under 50 years of age. In the year 1700, this hoſpital maintained 54 perſons; but, ſince that time, the number has decreaſed.—The revenue conſiſts in a real eſtate of lands and houſes, the groſs rent of which is 762 l. a-year; and 5500 l. lent out in bonds at 4 *per cent.*

This hoſpital is ſituated at the foot of Leith-wynd, and maintains about 50 of both ſexes, who are comfortably lodged, each having a room for themſelves. They are ſupplied with roaſt or boiled meat every day for dinner, have money allowed them for clothes, and likewiſe a ſmall ſum for pocket-money. There is a ſmall liberary for their amuſement, and they have a chaplain to ſay prayers. There are ſome out-

penſioners who have 6 l. a-year, but theſe are diſcouraged by the governors. The funds are under the management of the town-council.

The Charity Workhouse.

The *Charity Workhouſe* was erected in 1743 by voluntary contribution. It is a large plain building, on the ſouth ſide of the city. Here the poor are employed, and are allowed twopence out of every ſhilling they earn. The expence of this inſtitution is ſuppoſed to be not leſs than 4000 l. annually; as about 700 perſons of both ſexes, including children, are maintained here, each of whom cannot be reckoned to coſt leſs than 4 l. 10 s. *per annum*; and there are beſides 300 out-penſioners. The only permanent fund for defraying this expence is a tax of two *per cent.* on the valued rents of the city, which may bring in about 600 l. annually; and there are other funds which yield about 400 l. The reſt is derived from collections at the church doors and voluntary contributions; but as theſe always fall ſhort of what is requiſite, recourſe muſt frequently be had to extraordinary collections. The ſum ariſing from the rents of the city, however, is conſtantly increaſing; but the members of the College of Juſtice are exempted from the tax.

There are two other charity workhouſes in the ſuburbs, much on the ſame plan with that now deſcribed; one in the Canongate, and the other in St Cuthbert's or Weſt Kirk pariſh.

To

To this account of the charitable eſtabliſhments in Edinburgh, we ſhall add that of ſome others; which, though not calculated to decorate the city by any public building, are perhaps no leſs deſerving of praiſe than any we have mentioned. The firſt is that of Captain William Horn; who left 3500 l. in truſt to the magiſtrates, the annual profits to be divided on Chriſtmas day to poor out-day labourers, who muſt at that ſeaſon of the year be deſtitute of employment; five pounds to be given to thoſe who have large families, and one half to thoſe who have ſmaller.

Another charity is that of Robert Johnſton, L.L.D. of London, who in 1640 left 3000 l. to the poor of this city; 1000 l. to be employed in ſetting them to work, another 1000 l. to clothe the boys in Heriot's Hoſpital, and the third 1000 l. to burſers at the univerſity.

About the beginning of this century, John Strachen left his eſtate of Craigcrook, now upwards of 300 l. a-year, in truſt to the preſbytery of Edinburgh, to be by them diſpoſed of in ſmall annual ſums to poor old people not under 65 years of age, and to orphans not above 12.

There is beſides a ſociety for the ſupport of the induſtrious poor, another for the indigent ſick, and there are alſo many charity-ſchools.

Religious Eſtabliſhments.

It now remains only to ſpeak ſomething of the religious and civil eſtabliſhments of this metropolis.

The

The higheſt of the former is the *General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland*, who meet here annually in the month of May, in an aiſle of the church of St Giles fitted up on purpoſe for them. The throne is filled by a commiſſioner from his Majeſty, but he neither debates nor votes. He calls them together, and diſſolves them at the appointed time in the name of the King; but they call and diſſolve themſelves in the name of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt. This aſſembly conſiſts of 350 members, choſen out of the various preſbyteries throughout the kingdom; and the debates are often very intereſting and eloquent. This is the ſupreme eccleſiaſtical court in Scotland, to which appeals ly from the inferior ones.

The eccleſiaſtical court next in dignity to the Aſſembly is the *Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale*, who meet in the ſame place in April and November; and next to them is the Preſbytery of Edinburgh. Theſe meet on the laſt Wedneſday of every month, and are truſtees on the fund for miniſters widows. They have a hall in Scott's cloſe, where there is a good picture of Dr Webſter by Martin, which was put up at the expence of the truſtees, out of gratitude for the trouble he took in planning and fully eſtabliſhing the fund.

The Society for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge in the Highlands and Iſlands of Scotland, was eſtabliſhed a body corporate by Queen Anne in the year 1709, for the purpoſe of erecting ſchools to inſtruct poor children in the principles of Chriſtianity, as well as in

in reading and writing. The ſociety have a hall in Warriſton's cloſe where their buſineſs is tranſacted. From time to time they have received large contributions, which have always been very properly applied; and for much the ſame purpoſe his Majeſty gives 1000l. annually to the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland, which is employed by a committee of their number for inſtructing the poor Highlanders in the principles of the Chriſtian religion.

The Earſe Church at Edinburgh was built about 20 years ago by ſubſcription for the ſame laudable purpoſe. Great numbers of people reſort to the metropolis from the Highlands, who underſtand no other language but their own, and conſequently have no opportunity of inſtruction without it; and a moſt remarkable proof of the benefit they have received from it is, that though the church is capable of holding 1000 people, yet it is not large enough for thoſe who apply for ſeats. The miniſter has 100l. *per annum* ariſing from the ſeat-rents, and holds communion with the Church of Scotland. The eſtabliſhment was promoted by William Dickſon dyer in Edinburgh.

Beſides the religious eſtabliſhments above mentioned, there are in Edinburgh the following parochial churches, of which the limits of this work will not allow us to give a particular deſcription:

1. *The Old and New Gray Friars Churches*, two contiguous buildings; the one built in 1612, and the

the other in 1721. The former is remarkable for having been the priſon of the Covenanters during the troubles of the reign of Charles II. On the 7th of May 1718, part of the ſame church was blown up by gun-powder, belonging to the town, which had been lodged in the ſteeple.

2. *Lady Yeſter's Church*, founded in 1647 by Dame Margaret Ker, Lady Yeſter.

3. *Trinity College Church*, founded in 1462 by by Mary of Gueldres, Queen of James II. in honour of the Holy Trinity, called ſince the Reformation, the *College-Kirk*.

4. *The Church of St Cuthbert's*, commonly called the *Weſt Kirk*, whoſe pariſh is eſteemed the richeſt and moſt populous in Scotland. This church appears to be of great antiquity, as, in the charter of foundation of the monaſtery of Holyrood-houſe, there is mention of donations made to it by the uſurper Macbeth. Some years ago, this church becoming ruinous, a new one was erected, which has been lately ornamented with a handſome ſpire.

Owing to the great increaſe of the number of inhabitants in the pariſh of St Cuthbert's, it was found neceſſary to erect a place of worſhip for their accommodation. A *Chapel of Eaſe* was accordingly built by ſubſcription. The landholders and kirk-ſeſſion of the pariſh of St Cuthbert's have the government of all matters reſpecting this chapel, and the right of electing the miniſter.

There is another chapel, founded by Lady Glenorchy in the year 1772, called *Lady Glenorchy's Chapel*, whoſe miniſter holds communion with the Church of Scotland.

Beſides

Beſides theſe, there are a great many other places of worſhip in this city, belonging to different ſectaries, too tedious to enumerate.

POLITICAL CONSTITUTION.

WITH regard to the *Political Conſtitution* of Edinburgh, the town-council have the direction of all public affairs. The *ordinary* council conſiſts only of 25 perſons; but the *council ordinary and extraordinary*, of 33. The whole is compoſed of merchants and tradeſmen, whoſe reſpective powers and intereſts are ſo interwoven, that a balance is preſerved between the two bodies. The members of the town-council are partly elected by the members of the 14 incorporations, and they partly chooſe their own ſucceſſors. The election is made in the following manner: Firſt a liſt or *leet* of ſix perſons is made out by each incorporation; from which number, the deacon belonging to that incorporation muſt be choſen. Theſe liſts are then laid before the ordinary council of 25, who "ſhorten the *leets*," by expunging one half of the names from each; and from the three remaining ones the deacon is to be choſen. When this election is over, the new deacons are preſented to the ordinary council, who chooſe ſix of them to be members of their body, and the ſix deacons of laſt year then walk off. The council of 25 next proceed to the election of three merchant and two trades counſellors. The members of council, who now amount to 33 in number, then make out *leets* from which the lord provoſt, dean

dean of guild, treaſurer, and bailies muſt be choſen. The candidates for each of theſe officers are three in number; and the election is made by the 30 members of council already mentioned, joined to the eight *extraordinary* council-deacons.

The Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, who is ſtyled *Right Honourable*, is high ſheriff, coroner, and admiral, within the city and liberties, and the town, harbour, and road of Leith. He has alſo a juriſdiction in matters of life and death. He is preſes of the convention of royal boroughs, colonel of the trained bands, commander of the city-guard, and of Edinburgh jail. In the city he has the precedency of all the great officers of ſtate and of the nobility; walking on the right hand of the king or of his majeſty's commiſſioner; and has the privilege of having a ſword and mace carried before him. Under him are four magiſtrates, called *bailies*, whoſe office is much the ſame with that of aldermen in London. There is alſo a dean of guild, who has the charge of the public buildings, and without whoſe warrant no houſe nor building can be erected within the city. He has a council to conſult with a nominal treaſurer, who formerly had the keeping of the town's money, which is now given to the chamberlain. Theſe ſeven are elected annually; who with the ſeven of the former year, three merchants and two trades counſellors, and 14 deacons or preſeſes of incorporated trades, making in all 33, form the council of the city, and have the ſole management and diſpoſal of the city revenues; by which means they have the diſpoſal of places to the amount of

of 20,000l. annually. Formerly, the provoſt was alſo an officer in the Scots parliament. The magiſtrates are ſheriffs-depute and juſtices of the peace; and the town council are alſo patrons of all the churches in Edinburgh, patrons of the univerſity, and electors of the city's repreſentative in parliament. They have beſides a very ample juriſdiction both civil and criminal. They are ſuperiors of the Canongate, Portſburgh, and Leith; and appoint over theſe certain of their own number, who are called *baron bailies*: but the perſon who preſides over Leith has the title of *admiral*, becauſe he hath there a juriſdiction over maritime affairs. The baron bailies appoint one or two of the inhabitants of their reſpective diſtricts to be their ſubſtitutes, and theſe are called *reſident bailies*. They hold courts in abſence of the baron-bailies, for petty offences, and diſcuſſing civil cauſes of little moment.

Town Guard.

No city in the world affords greater ſecurity to the inhabitants in their perſons and properties than Edinburgh. Robberies are here very rare, and a ſtreet-murder hardly known in the memory of man; ſo that a perſon may walk the ſtreets at any hour of the night in perfect ſecurity. This is in a great meaſure owing to the *Town-Guard*. This inſtitution originated from the conſternation into which the citizens were thrown after the battle of Flowden. At that time, the town-council commanded the in-

habitants to aſſemble in defence of the city, and every fourth man to be on duty each night. This introduced a kind of perſonal duty for the defence of the town, called *watching and warding*; by which the trading part of the inhabitants were obliged in perſon to watch alternately, in order to prevent or ſuppreſs occaſional diſturbances. This, however, becoming in time extremely inconvenient, the town-council, in 1648, appointed a body of 60 men to be raiſed; the captain of which was to have a monthly pay of 11l. 2s. 3d. two lieutenants of 2l. each, two ſerjeants of 1l. 5s. and the private men of 15s. each. No regular fund was eſtabliſhed for defraying this expence; the conſequence of which was, that the old method of watching and warding was reſumed: but the people on whom this ſervice devolved were now become ſo relaxed in their diſcipline, that the magiſtrates were threatened with having the King's troops quartered in the city if they did not appoint a ſufficient guard. On this 40 men were raiſed in 1679, and in 1682 the number was increaſed to 108. After the revolution, the town-council complained of the guard as a grievance, and requeſted parliament that it might be removed. Their requeſt was immediately granted, and the old method of watching and warding was renewed. This, however, was now ſo intolerable, that the very next year they applied to parliament for leave to raiſe 126 men for the defence of the city, and to tax the citizens for their payment. This being granted, the corps was raiſed which ſtill continues under the name of the *Town-Guard*. At preſent the eſtabliſh-

ment

ment conſiſts of three officers and about 90 men, who mount guard by turns. The officers have a lieutenant's pay; the ſerjeants, corporals, drummers, and common ſoldiers, the ſame with thoſe of the army. Their arms are the ſame with thoſe of the King's forces; but when called upon to quell mobs, they uſe Lochaber-axes, a part of the ancient Scottiſh armour now in uſe only among themſelves.

Militia or Trained Bands.

The *Militia or Trained Bands* of the city conſiſt of 16 companies of 100 men each. They were in uſe to turn out every King's birth-day; but only the officers now remain, who are choſen annually. They conſiſt of 16 captains and as many lieutenants; the Provoſt, as has already been mentioned, being the colonel.

The Town-Guard are paid chiefly by a tax on the trading people; theſe being the only perſons formerly ſubject to watching and warding. This tax, however, amounts only to 1250l. and as the expence of the Guard amounts to 1400l. the magiſtrates are obliged to defray the additional charge by other means.

Number of Inhabitants.

The number of inhabitants in the city of Edinburgh is ſomewhat uncertain, and has been very va-

rioufly calculated. By a ſurvey made in the year 1775, it appears that the number of families in the city, Canongate, and other ſuburbs, and the town of Leith, amounted to 13,806. The difficulty therefore is to fix the number of perſons in a family. Dr Price fixes this number at four and one-tenth; Mr Maitland, at five and one-half; and Mr Arnot, at ſix: ſo that, according to this laſt gentleman, the whole number of inhabitants is 82,836; to which he thinks 1400 more may be added for thoſe in the garriſon, hoſpitals, &c. There are in Edinburgh 14 incorporations, capable of chooſing their own deacons, viz. The royal college of ſurgeons; the corporations of goldſmiths, ſkinners, furriers, hammermen, wrights and maſons, taylors, bakers, butchers, ſhoemakers, weavers, waukers, bonnet-makers, and merchant-company. The revenue of the city, ariſing partly from duties of different kinds, and partly from landed property, is eſtimated at about 10,000l. *per annum.*

The markets of Edinburgh are plentifully ſupplied with all ſorts of proviſions. Freſh butcher-meat, as well as fowl and fiſh, if the weather permit, may be had every day; and no city can be better ſupplied with garden ſtuffs. The Edinburgh ſtrawberries, particularly, are remarkably large and fine. A remarkable inſtance of the plenty of proviſions with which Edinburgh is ſupplied was obſerved in the year 1779, when ſeveral large fleets, all of them in want of neceſſaries, arrived in the Forth, to the amount of about 500 ſail, and having on board at leaſt 20,000 men; yet the increaſed conſumption of proviſions,

proviſions, which certainly enſued upon the arrival of ſo many ſtrangers, made not the leaſt increaſe in the rate of the markets, inſomuch that ſeveral victualling ſhips ſent down by the Navy Board returned without opening their hatches. The city-mills are let to the corporation of bakers in Edinburgh; and the bread made in the city is remarkable for its goodneſs.

Edinburgh is ſupplied with water brought for ſome miles in pipes, and lodged in two reſervoirs, from whence it is diſtributed through the city both to public wells and private families. A revenue accrues to the town from the latter, which muſt undoubtedly increaſe in proportion as the city extends in magnitude.

There are but few merchants in Edinburgh, moſt of them reſiding at the port of Leith; ſo that the ſupport of the city depends on the conſumption of the neceſſaries as well as the ſuperfluities of life. There are five different ſorts of people on whom the ſhop-keepers, publicans, and different trades depend: 1. The people of the law, who are a very reſpectable body in the city. 2. The number of young people of both ſexes who come to town for their education, many of the parents of whom come along with them. 3. The country gentlemen, gentlemen of the army and navy, and people who have made their fortunes abroad, &c. all of whom come to attend the public diverſions, or to ſpend their time in ſuch a manner as is moſt agreeable to them. 4. The vaſt concourſe of travellers from all parts. 5. Moſt of the money drawn for the rents of country gentlemen is circulated among the bankers or other agents.

At Edinburgh there are excellent manufactures of linen and cambrics; there are alſo manufactures of paper in the neighbourhood, and printing is carried on very extenſively. But for ſome time the capital branch about Edinburgh has been building: which has gone on, and ſtill continues to do ſo, with ſuch rapidity, that the city has been increaſed exceedingly in its extent; and it is not uncommon to ſee a houſe built in a few months, and even inhabited before the roof is quite finiſhed.

FINIS.